Source 1

Source Information: President’s News Conference - June 16, 1949, Public Papers Harry S. Truman 1945-1953,

Note: Harry S. Truman is responding to a reporter’s question during a press conference.

[8] Q. Mr. President, the House Un-American Activities Committee has requested a number of educational institutions to turn in lists of schoolbooks, and a California university has asked for an oath for all its faculty members. Do you see any threat to educational freedom in this general trend?

THE PRESIDENT: I think that question is pretty well answered in a cartoon in the Washington Post this morning. Look at that cartoon, it will entertain you.

4The cartoon appeared in the Washington Post of June 16, 1949. It depicts two members of the House Committee on Un-American Activities surveying a huge pile of textbooks that had been sent to the Committee while one says, “Okay, now to find somebody that can read.”

1. Who was the creator of the cartoon?

2. Who is the intended audience? (Who was it meant for?)

3. When was the cartoon created?

4. Why did the artist create it? What was their purpose?

5. Does the artist support national security or personal freedom? What evidence from the cartoon supports that?

6. Why did Truman refer to this cartoon instead of just answering the question?
Source 2

Note: J. Parnell Thomas was the chairman of HUAC.

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

For a long time the Committee on Un-American Activities has been striving diligently to unearth the facts of the Communist conspiracy in the United States and its infiltration into the Government service. It has been necessary to do this because your administration has failed to keep the people informed about this dangerous situation which now belatedly is being recognized for what it really is. Why you and your Attorney General have attempted to obstruct and thwart our pursuit of the facts can best be answered by yourself.

The evidence of Communist espionage was laid on your desk more than three years ago. Since that time can you recall one action that has been taken to punish those guilty of spying in the United States? Where and when has your Attorney General prosecuted in public courts a single agent of the Russian espionage ring? The evidence has been gathered diligently by the FBI for many years. Why has it been allowed to gather dust in their files?

Several weeks ago, when we were conducting hearings on Communist espionage activities within the Government, you attempted to dismiss and discredit these hearings as being "a red herring." At a later press conference, you reiterated this charge. Apparently you have found out on your tour that the people did not agree with you, for I notice in
reading the text of your speech which you gave yesterday in Oklahoma City, that you stated as follows:

"The FBI has been quietly and efficiently assembling this evidence for several years. The evidence was being presented to the Grand Jury long before the Republican Congressional Committees began their recent hearings. Now these Committees are trying to win credit for digging up evidence. They are trying to cash in on the work of the FBI, and to usurp the functions of the Grand Jury and the Federal Courts."

I assume from the above statement that you have concluded that it was not a "red herring" after all. Further in your speech you made some ridiculous accusations against the Committee on Un-American Activities—accusations which I call upon you now to substantiate by the facts:

1. You stated that this Committee "has made confidential information available to the intelligence services of foreign countries." What information are you referring to? Please name it.

2. You state that this Committee has "injured the reputations of innocent men by spreading wild and false accusations." Who are the innocent men? Please name them.

3. You state that "the Committee has also deprived the Government of the services of a number of atomic scientists." Who are they? Please name them.

Your Attorney General, in a speech given on September 22, in Washington, D. C., in defending your loyalty program, stated:

"The President's program has not ended with the investigation of Federal employees. Thirty-four persons have been convicted in the Federal Courts in Washington, D. C., since July 1, 1945."

Let me have the facts on this also, Mr. President, because I am sure that you will find that most of them resulted directly from the work of this Committee and were cases of subversives who had been certified to the United States Attorney by the House of Representatives, after exposure by our Committee.
I realize, Mr. President, that this is a blunt request, but your attack upon this Committee cannot be left unchallenged.

As Chairman of the Committee on Un-American activities, I do not intend to be deterred or intimidated by personal attacks upon me by the President of the United States, or by political-serving announcements by the Attorney General, for I shall continue to expose the participants in this communist conspiracy whether they be Government employees, scientists, diplomats, labor leaders, or movie stars.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Chairman.

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2. Who is the intended audience? (Who was/is meant for?)
3. When was the document written?
4. Why did the author write it? What was their purpose?
5. Does the author support national security or personal freedom? What evidence from the text or source supports that?
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Note: President Harry S. Truman signed United States Executive Order 9835, sometimes known as the "Loyalty Order", on March 21, 1947. The order established the first general loyalty program in the United States, designed to root out communist influence in the U.S. federal government. This is an excerpt of the Executive Order for the Loyalty Program.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 9835

PRESCRIBING PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF AN EMPLOYEES LOYALTY PROGRAM IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS each employee of the Government of the United States is endowed with a measure of trusteeship over the democratic processes which are at the heart and sinew of the United States; and

WHEREAS it is of vital importance that persons employed in the Federal service be of complete and unswerving loyalty to the United States; and

WHEREAS, although the loyalty of by far the overwhelming majority of all Government employees is beyond question, the presence within the Government service of any disloyal or subversive person constitutes a threat to our democratic processes; and

WHEREAS maximum protection must be afforded the United States against infiltration of disloyal persons into the ranks of its employees, and equal protection from unfounded accusations of disloyalty must be afforded the loyal employees of the Government:

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statues of the United States, including the Civil Service Act of 1883 (22 Stat. 403), as amended, and section 9A of the act approved August 2, 1939 (18 U. S. C. 61i), and as President and Chief Executive of the United States, it is hereby, in the interest of the internal management of the Government, ordered as follows:

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3. When was the document written?
4. Why did the author write it? What was their purpose?
5. Does the author support national security or personal freedom? What evidence from the text or source supports that?
Source 5

Source Information: Letter from Jack Moffitt to Norris Paulson (a member of Congress). Written on April 11, 1947 in regards to Twentieth Century Fox promoting communism within Hollywood.

Note: Jack Moffitt was a screenwriter and movie critic in Hollywood. Moffitt had recently testified before a HUAC subcommittee and may have provided the names to bolster his testimony. Moffitt likely wrote to Paulson because Paulson represented the district that included Los Angeles. A document accompanied Moffitt’s letter to Paulson, perhaps written by Moffitt himself that appears to be an anti-Communism screed intended to blacklist people in Hollywood.

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Letter from "An American" to the Chair of the House Un-American Activities Committee Regarding Gale Sondergaard; 3/16/1951; Committee Papers, 1945 - 1975; Records of the U.S. House of Representatives, Record Group 233; Center for Legislative Archives, Washington, D.C.

Note: Gale Sondergaard was an American actress. She was married to the director Herbert Bieberman, Sondergaard supported him when he was accused of communism and named as one of the Hollywood Ten in the early 1950s.
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The keystone of our form of government is the liberty of the individual. The Bill of Rights, which protects our individual liberties, is a fundamental part of our Constitution.

When the Legion pledged itself to uphold the Constitution, and to foster 100 percent Americanism, it pledged itself to protect the rights and liberties of all our citizens.

Real Americanism means that we will protect freedom of speech—we will defend the right of people to say what they think, regardless of how much we may disagree with them.

Real Americanism means freedom of religion. It means that we will not discriminate against a man because of his religious faith.

Real Americanism means fair opportunities for all our citizens. It means that none of our citizens should be held back by unfair discrimination and prejudice.

Real Americanism means fair play. It means that a man who is accused of a crime shall be considered innocent until he has been proved guilty. It means that people are not to be penalized and persecuted for exercising their constitutional liberties.

Real Americanism means also that liberty is not license. There is no freedom to injure others. The Constitution does not protect free speech to the extent of permitting conspiracies to overthrow the Government. Neither does the right of free speech authorize slander or character assassination. These limitations are essential to keep us working together in one great community.

Real Americanism includes all these things. And it takes all of them together to make 100 percent Americanism—the kind the Legion is pledged to support.

I'm glad the Legion has made that pledge. For true Americanism is under terrible attack today. True Americanism needs defending—here and now. It needs defending by every decent human being in this country.

Americanism is under attack by communism, at home and abroad. We are defending it against that attack. And we are protecting our country from spies and saboteurs. We are breaking up the Communist conspiracy in the United States. We are building our defenses, and making our country strong, and helping our allies to help themselves.

If we keep on doing these things—if we put our best into the job—we can protect ourselves from the attack of communism.
But Americanism is also under another kind of attack. It is being undermined by some people in this country who are loudly proclaiming that they are its chief defenders. These people claim to be against communism. But they are chipping away at our basic freedoms just as insidiously and far more effectively than the Communists have ever been able to do.

These people have attacked our basic principle of fair play that underlies our Constitution. They are trying to create fear and suspicion among us by the use of slander, unproved accusations, and just plain lies.

They are filling the air with the most irresponsible kinds of accusations against other people. They are trying to get us to believe that our Government is riddled with communism and corruption--when the fact is that we have the finest and the most loyal body of civil servants in the whole world. These slander mongers are trying to get us so hysterical that no one will stand up to them for fear of being called a Communist.

Now, this is an old Communist trick in reverse. Everybody in Russia lives in terror of being called an anti-Communist. For once that charge is made against anybody in Russia--no matter what the facts are--he is on the way out. And what I mean is, he is on the way out!

In a dictatorship everybody lives in fear and terror of being denounced and slandered. Nobody dares stand up for his rights.

We must never let such a condition come to pass in this great country of ours.

Yet this is exactly what the scaremongers and the hate mongers are trying to bring about. Character assassination is their stock in trade. Guilt by association is their motto. They have created such a wave of fear and uncertainty that their attacks upon our liberties go almost unchallenged. Many people are growing frightened--and frightened people don't protest.

Stop and think. Stop and think where this is leading us.

The growing practice of character assassination is already curbing free speech and it is threatening all our other freedoms. I daresay there are people here today who have reached the point where they are afraid to explore a new idea. How many of you are afraid to come right out in public and say what you think about a controversial issue? How many of you feel that you must "play it safe" in all things--and on all occasions?

I hope there are not many, but from all that I have seen and heard, I am afraid of what your answers might be.

For I know you have no way of telling when some unfounded accusation may be hurled at you, perhaps straight from the Halls of Congress.

Some of you have friends or neighbors who have been singled out for the pitiless publicity that follows accusations of this kind--accusations that are made without any regard for the actual guilt or innocence of the victim.
That is not fair play. That is not Americanism. It is not the American way to slur the loyalty and besmirch the character of the innocent and the guilty alike. We have always considered it just as important to protect the innocent as it is to punish the guilty.

We want to protect the country against disloyalty--of course we do. We have been punishing people for disloyal acts, and we are going to keep on punishing the guilty whenever we have a case against them. But we don't want to destroy our whole system of justice in the process. We don't want to injure innocent people. And yet the scurrilous work of the scandalmongers gravely threatens the whole idea of protection for the innocent in our country today.

Perhaps the Americans who live outside of Washington are less aware of this than you and I. If that is so, I want to warn them all. Slander, lies, character assassination--these things are a threat to every single citizen everywhere in this country. And when even one American--who has done nothing wrong--is forced by fear to shut his mind and close his mouth, then all Americans are in peril.

It is the job of all of us--of every American who loves his country and his freedom--to rise up and put a stop to this terrible business. This is one of the greatest challenges we face today. We have got to make a fight

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### Gallup Vault: Celebrity Witnesses Before Congress in 1947

**Americans Divided on Handling of the House Un-American Activities Committee Hollywood Hearings**

What is your opinion of this investigation (of Hollywood by the congressional committee) -- do you approve or disapprove of the way it was handled?

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<th>Approve</th>
<th>Disapprove</th>
<th>No opinion</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td>37</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>27</td>
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* Asked of the 80% of respondents familiar with theHUAC hearings.

**GALLUP: NOV. 7-12, 1947**

**Nearly Half of Americans Favored Punishing Those Who Did Not Cooperate With the House Un-American Activities Committee**

Do you think the Hollywood writers who refused to say whether they were members of the Communist Party should be punished or not?

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>Should be</th>
<th>Should not be</th>
<th>No opinion</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td>47</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>14</td>
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* *Education level:

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<td>Grammar school</td>
<td>53</td>
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* *Occupation:

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<tr>
<td>Professional and business</td>
<td>41</td>
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<td>White collar</td>
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<td>Farmers</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>16</td>
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**GALLUP: NOV. 7-12, 1947**

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Source 10
Source Information: 1947- Owner of Walt Disney Studios Walt Elias Disney at hearings of House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) in the United States

Youtube Video of Walt Disney’s Testimony: Walt Disney Studios owner Walt Disney testifies against Communism at hearings of.... HD Stock Footage

1. Who was the creator of the video?
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3. When was the video created?
4. Why did the author create it? What was their purpose?
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Source 11

Source Information: 1965- Pete Seeger Testimony on being Blacklisted in America

Note: Pete Seeger was an American folk singer and social activist. Seeger was one of the folk singers responsible for popularizing the spiritual “We Shall Overcome” that became the anthem of the Civil Rights Movement.

Youtube: Pete Seeger Testimony on being Blacklisted in America
Pete Seeger on being blacklisted in America, 1965: CBC Archives

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