

Senator Joe McCarthy: Audio Excerpts, 1950-1954

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TRANSCRIPT OF EXCERPT

Senator McCarthy speaking:

Now there's, if I -- I don't like to take up too much of your time here, but I would like to discuss one other specific case if I may. When I -- during a Lincoln Day tour -- among others, I mentioned a man, John Service, pointed out that under no circumstances should he be in the State Department. Pointed out his background, his record -- incidentally, this man Service was picked up in 1945, picked up with five co-defendants in connection with the *Amerasia* case. And you'll hear a lot more about that case over the next year or two. Picked up in connection with the *Amerasia* case for the, in connection with the theft of some six or seven hundred -- I don't have the exact number -- documents ranging all the way from top secret down to the lower classification. Three hundred sixty of those documents came from the State Department, some from the office of Naval Intelligence, some from Army Intelligence, and I believe from practically every agency of the government.

According to the newspapers J. Edgar Hoover said this is a 100 percent airtight case of espionage. And as you know, J. Edgar Hoover isn't noted for making overstatements.

[Reel change, McCarthy continues, still speaking of Service]indicted, he was never tried, but under Mr. Acheson, [pause] let me first give you the picture. Joe Grew was the undersecretary of state at the time Service was picked up. He was the man, one of the men, who insisted upon the arrest. Strangely, however, Joe Grew resigned and Acheson took over. First the sequence of events was Acheson resigned, two days later Grew resigned, then Acheson was called back

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and took over as undersecretary. And under Mr. Acheson what do you think happened to Service? He was promoted and put in charge of placements and promotions of personnel in the far eastern area.

Now when I called attention to Service's case, the State department issued a very strongly worded press release in which they pointed out that Mr. Service had been cleared four times -- four times by the loyalty board. And that of course, therefore, there could be nothing to this. I got back to Washington, I pointed out he had not been cleared -- he'd been cleared not merely four times, but five times, by this misnamed loyalty board. I pointed out, however, that -- and this was on the 14th of March -- I pointed out that on the 3rd of March the review board had picked up his case which they have no legal authority to do, but they picked it up anyway on a post-audit. Keep in mind the review board has no authority whatsoever to reverse the State Department loyalty board when they give a man a clean bill of health. The review board picked up this case from what they call a post-audit. They sent it back and not only showed they were dissatisfied with the case but said that we want a completely new board appointed in the State Department to go over this case. Immediately, the State Department -- Mr. Puerifoy, Acheson's man -- said McCarthy is again a liar. By that time of course I was getting used to that. Said there's nothing to it. Mr. Malloy of the loyalty review board said we never heard of John Service. However, later that afternoon they discovered that I had some documents which would appear in the paper the next morning unless they told the truth so they said "Oh yes, we made a mistake." Actually, the loyalty review board did take that action on the 3rd of March, but they said it took 11 days for it to get over to the State Department. It's six blocks. It must have gone by dog train. [Laughter] And Mr. Richardson, who is head of the loyalty board, was then asked why his secretary said they never heard of John Service. Why he didn't tell the press the truth. And he said, "Oh well we had to have some answer for the newspapers." That gives you an idea of that one.

Now then Mr. Puerifoy issued a very strong statement saying that McCarthy was a rat, and such like, for embarrassing Service, making Service come back from China to answer these charges. He went on to say that the sympathy of everyone in the State Department goes out to Mr. Service. Keep in mind that the man who made this statement is the man who has the power to hire or fire the board which is now going to pass upon Service. Do you follow that? In other words, the man who appoints the board to pass on the Service case makes the public statement

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that Mr. Service is simon-pure. Since that time, since that time, the State Department has been very busy making available to Mr. Service's lawyer the secret documents which have been denied to the Senate committee, so that he may defend himself.