

1513 Barbee Avenue  
Houston 4, Texas  
October 1, 1950

To Whom It May Concerns:

This letter is a statement in behalf of Dr. Ruth A. M. Schmidt, who has advised me that her eligibility as a government employee is being questioned because of her membership in the Washington Cooperative Bookshop.

I am Mrs. Doris Malkin Isaacs, residing at 1513 Barbee Avenue, Houston 4, Texas. I am at present (under my maiden name Dr. Doris S. Malkin) a part-time Assistant Professor of Geology at the University of Houston, where I have signed a loyalty oath, and was for seven years, until my marriage in February 1950, a geologist for Shell Oil Company.

I have known Ruth Schmidt for twelve years, since the time she entered the graduate school of Columbia University in 1938 to work for an advanced degree in Geology. (At that time I was studying for my doctorate in Geology at Columbia but was not enrolled in any classes.) After I left the University in 1939 we met on several occasions; on at least one visit that I made to Columbia, probably in 1941; once when I visited my sister in Washington in 1943; once when Miss Schmidt visited me in Houston in 1944; several times during 1946 when I was assigned to the Baltimore office of the Shell Oil Company; once in 1948 when I spent several days as Miss Schmidt's guest while doing some research at the United States National Museum. During the year that I spent in Baltimore we worked together on some paleontologic problems so that Miss Schmidt and I exchanged several visits in Baltimore and Washington; we went on field trips in Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia to collect material for her doctor's thesis; I also saw her several times at meetings of the Geological Society of Washington during that year, and visited her socially as well. Since 1939 we have corresponded with each other quite regularly (i. e. about four times a year) concerning both personal and geological matters.

I am certain that Ruth Schmidt was never a communist or a communist sympathizer. She is extremely honest, frank, and straightforward; a person of highest integrity in her dealings with other people, in her scientific thinking, and in her every-day living; she would never try to conceal her true attitudes. At no time has she ever expressed sentiments of disloyalty to the United States Government. On the contrary, she has always been keenly conscious of her responsibilities as a good citizen, and has tried more conscientiously than do most people, to live up to those responsibilities. She is thoughtful, serious, and intelligent in formulating independent judgment on political and social questions, with the result that she has always reached the inevitable conclusion that communism was the wrong answer to such questions. From our many conversations I know that Ruth Schmidt is completely loyal to the United States Government and to the principles of Democracy, that she has never favored any radical change in our system of government. I therefore re-iterate with complete certainty the opening statement of this paragraph: "I am certain that Ruth Schmidt was never a communist or a communist sympathizer."