



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

APR 7 1954

Rec'd April 10 1954

PERSONAL

Registered Mail
Return Receipt Requested

Memorandum

To: Ruth Anna Marie Schmidt
Geologist, Geological Survey
2605 39th Street, NW
Washington, D. C.

From: The Secretary of the Interior

Subject: Charges under Executive Order 10450 and Public
Law 733, and Departmental Order No. 2738

1. By virtue of the authority vested in me by Executive Order 10450 dated April 27, 1953 (18 F. R. 2489) and the Act of August 26, 1950 (5 U. S. C., 1946 ed., Supp. V, Sec. 22-1 et seq.) as implemented by Departmental Order 2738, you are hereby notified of your possible removal from employment.

2. The reasons for your possible removal from employment and the charges against you, which are as specific as security interests permit, are as follows:

(a) That on or about the month of August 1945 you became a member of The Washington Book Shop Association under and by virtue of a "life membership" therein so that you have been at all times since and are now a member of said The Washington Book Shop Association.

(b) That during all the time from and after the month of August 1945 you were actively engaged in working with and sympathetically associated with the said The Washington Book Shop Association up to and including the time that said Association voted to dissolve in the month of February 1950. That your associations and activities during this period of time include, but are not limited to, attending numerous meetings sponsored by the Association, meetings of the Association's officers and Board of Directors, acting as Publicity Director of the Forum Committee of the Association, acting as chairman of public lectures and meetings sponsored by the Association and introducing speakers appearing to give talks and lectures.

(c) That during said period of time from August 1945 to February 1950, inclusive, but not limited thereto, you were in sympathetic association with numerous persons who were members of, affiliated with, or in sympathetic association with The Washington Book Shop Association, including but not limited to the following named persons, to-wit: Marie Siegrist, Marcus Goldman, Edwin C. Randall, Gertrude Hurney, Tom Hurney, Joe Pierce, Sarah Rosenbaum, Estar Paskoff, Al Paskoff, Evelyn Lymous, Rose Bassis, Dr. Mercer Cook, Dr. Eugene Holmes, Margaret Holmes, Marguerite Henderson, Bill Henderson, Dr. Alfred Henley, Helen Garner, Lillian Brill Clott, Raymond Israel Pinkson, and Gertrude Evans.

That many of these said persons hereinabove named were members of the Communist Party, to-wit: Joe Pierce, Sarah Rosenbaum, Estar Paskoff, Al Paskoff, Dr. Eugene Holmes, Margaret Holmes, Marguerite Henderson, Raymond Israel Pinkson, and Gertrude Evans.

(d) The Washington Book Shop Association was cited September 24, 1942, by the then Attorney General of the United States as being penetrated or controlled by the members of the Communist Party; this Association was cited March 29, 1944, by a Special Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives of the United States as a Communist front; and this Association was again cited December 4, 1947, and September 21, 1948, by the then Attorney General of the United States as subversive and Communist.

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That you have admitted that on or about the month of December 1947 you learned of your own knowledge that The Washington Book Shop Association had been designated as a subversive organization by the then Attorney General under Executive Order 9835 but regardless of this knowledge on your part, you thereafter continued your membership in, affiliation with and sympathetic association with said Washington Book Shop Association up to and including the month of February 1950, at least, and until you were notified by the Board of Directors of said The Washington Book Shop Association that it had been voted to dissolve and discontinue the same.

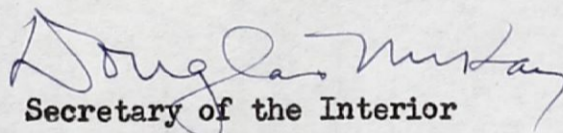
(e) The Washington Book Shop Association and the Communist Party are each totalitarian and subversive organizations which have adopted, maintained, and showed a policy of advocating or approving the commission of acts by force or violence to deny persons their rights under the Constitution of the United States and which have sought or now seek to alter the form of the Government of the United

States by unconstitutional means. Each of these organizations has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as being within the purview of section 8(a)(5) of Executive Order 10450 (see 18 F. R. 2741, May 12, 1953).

3. Your behavior, activities and associations tend to show that you are not reliable or trustworthy, and these facts also furnish reason to believe that you may be subjected to coercion, influence, or pressure which may cause you to act contrary to the best interests of national security.

4. You are hereby advised of your right and opportunity to submit any statements, answer, or affidavits to the Secretary of the Interior within 30 days after receipt of this notice to show why you should not be removed from employment. All such statements, answer, and affidavits should be sworn to under oath and it should be noted that any deliberate misrepresentations, falsifications, or omission of material facts may constitute sufficient basis for removal. You may also request a hearing before a board duly constituted for that purpose. I will review and consider such statements, answer, and affidavits, if any are submitted by you, and the recommendation of the hearing board if a hearing is requested, and as soon as possible thereafter you will be notified of my decision to either terminate your employment if I shall determine that such termination is necessary and advisable in the interests of the national security of the United States, or to retain you in your present employment.

5. There is enclosed a copy of Departmental Order No. 2738 to which are attached copies of Executive Order 10450 and Public Law 733 (the Act of August 26, 1950).


Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure