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7/29/53

McCARTHY, Sen. Joseph

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In connection with the resignation of Mr. J. B. Matthews from Senator McCarthy's subcommittee, the press gave the President much credit for forcing the situation by his telegram of July 9, 1953, to the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

There was some good fortune for the White House in the sequence of events, for there was a large probability that Matthews' resignation would have occurred as the result of a protest vote by the majority of McCarthy's committee. The President's statement, however, was completed and released prior to any break on the Hill, thus allowing some credit to accrue to the President.

The text of the President's message to the clergymen was drafted at a lengthy session in which Governor Adams, General Persons, Mr. Hagerty, and Mr. Hughes participated. There was full agreement that the President should make a statement but some discussion as to the exact wording. The President, when the draft was presented to him, had no reservations about making it.

JAM
Minnich

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By RS NLE, Date 7/13/79