

## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

(07)...

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the data line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

TA91

1947 OCT 16 AM 11 40

T.HD109 PD=HOLLYWOOD CALIF 16 708A

HAROLD E STASSEN=

BLACKSTONE HOTEL CHGO=

DEAR HAROLD I SHALL EAGERLY BE WAITING FOR YOUR CALL WE WISH TO GO TO PRESS WITH AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE HOLLYWOOD PAPERS, AND TO ISSUE A STATEMENT IN THE PRESS, TODAY SINCE THE INVESTIGATION STARTS ON MONDAY AND MANY OF THE HOLLYWOOD MOTION PICTURE PAPERS DO NOT PUBLISH ON SATURDAY

¶ IT IS OUR EARNEST DESIRE THAT YOU WILL SEE FIT TO LET US USE YOUR NAME AS GENERAL COUNSEL WE HAVE REQUESTED FORMER JUSTICE ROBERTS TO SERVE AS ADVISORY COUNSEL. WE HAVE SOUGHT NO ONE ELSE, IN VIEW OF THE UNANIMOUS DESIRE OF THE GROUP FOR YOURSELF AND MR ROBERTS ABOVE ALL OTHERS AND IN VIEW OF THE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO OUR PHONE CALLS BY YOU BOTH.

¶ THE FOLLOWING IS THE STATEMENT AND ADVERTISEMENT THAT WE HAVE PREPARED, AND TO WHICH I SHOULD LIKE TO APPEND YOUR NAME

END ONE

## CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN  
UNION (17)...JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

## SYMBOLS

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TA97

1947 OCT 16 AM 11 40

T.HD109 PD/3=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

INDIVIDUALS IN THE WORLD, WOULD HAIL YOUR CHAMPIONSHIP WITH ENORMOUS ENTHUSIASM, AS WAS CLEARLY INDICATED BY THE UNANIMOUS AND HOPEFUL RECEPTION OF MY PROPOSAL THAT YOU BE SOUTH, AT THE MEETING OF THE FIRST GROUP ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

¶ IT WOULD GIVE ME GREAT JOY AND ENORMOUS SATISFACTION FOR ALL OF HOLLYWOOD TO KNOW THAT AT LONG LAST IT HAS IN YOU A NATIONAL LEADER OF OUTSTANDING PROMINENCE WHOM IT CAN REGARD AS ITS OWN DEFENDER, AND TO WHOM IT COULD GIVE ITS SUPPORT AND GRATITUDE.

¶ CANDIDLY, IT IS ALSO MY HOPE THAT HOLLYWOOD, WHICH HAS NEVER HAD ANY ENTHUSIASM FOR ANY OF THE NATIONAL LEADERS EXCEPT ROOSEVELT (AND, TO A CONSIDERABLY LESSER EXTENT, WILLKIE), WILL NOW FIND ITS CHAMPION AMONG THE REPUBLICAN RANKS=

¶ IT IS ALSO MY BELIEF THAT INTELLIGENT PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WOULD RECOGNIZE THIS AS A TURNING POINT, TO END THE HYSTERIA WHICH IS RISING THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, WITH ATTENDANT DANGERS BEYOND ANY EVER BEFORE KNOWN IN  
END THREE.

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

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TA01

T.HD109 PD/4=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

AMERICA AND THAT REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP, YOUR OWN, WILL DEMONSTRATE ITSELF AS BEING THE GENUINELY LIBERAL LEADERSHIP OF THE COUNTRY.

¶ THE PROPOSED STATEMENT FOLLOWS: QUOTE

¶ WE THE UNDERSIGNED REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY, DEPLORE THE FACT THAT HOLLYWOOD IS ABOUT TO FACE ANOTHER CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION WITHOUT PROPER ORGANIZATION AGAINST IMPLICATIONS WHICH, BASED UPON THE SIGNS, CAN BE SERIOUSLY DAMAGING TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL IN THE INDUSTRY AND TO THE INDUSTRY ITSELF.

¶ WE QUESTION THE NATURE OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS, WITHOUT QUESTIONING THE PRIVILEGE OF THE CONGRESS TO MAKE THEM. WE FEEL THAT CHANGES IN THE NATURE OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS ARE CLEARLY INDICATED, IF BASIC AND FUNDAMENTAL AMERICAN RIGHTS ARE TO BE PRESERVED. WE BELIEVE THAT THE OBVIOUS TRANSGRESSIONS AGAINST THESE RIGHTS INCLUDE THE INABILITY OF WITNESSES TO MAKE STATEMENTS IN THEIR OWN BEHALF TO THE REPRESENTED BY THEIR OWN COUNSEL AND TO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF CROSS EXAMINATION.

¶ WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IS HAS EVEN BEEN THE INTENTION THAT CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATIONS SHOULD TAKE ON THE ASPECTS OF STAR CHAMBER EXAMINATIONS; OR THAT THEY SHOULD BE  
END FOUR.

FOR SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

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TA07

1947 OCT 16 AM 11 40

T.HD109 PD/5=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

CONDUCTED IN A MANNER AKIN TO PROCEEDINGS UNDER FASCISTIC AND COMMUNISTIC REGIMES ABROAD OR THAT THEY SHOULD ASSUME THE CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIALS, MUCH LESS TRIALS IN WHICH THE INVESTIGATORS ACT AS ACCUSERS, PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES.

¶ WE BELIEVE IT TO BE HIGH TIME THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE ROUSED TO DEMAND A CORRECTION OF THESE UN AMERICAN PRACTICES; AND WE BELIEVE FURTHER THAT UNTIL THESE ABUSES ARE CORRECTED, IT BEHOOVES THE PEOPLE OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY TO ORGANIZE IN DEFENSE OF THE REPUTATION OF THEMSELVES AND THEIR CRAFT, AND THE SACRED AMERICAN LIBERTIES OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND OF ALL MEDIA OF EXPRESSION.

¶ SINCE THIS STATEMENT IS PROMPTED BY AN INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGED COMMUNISM IN THE USE OF THE MOTION PICTURE SCREEN, WE WISH TO MAKE CLEAR THAT WE ARE NOT MAKING THIS STATEMENT IN THE BELIEF THAT THERE ARE NO COMMUNISTS IN HOLLYWOOD. WE ASSUME THAT THERE ARE SOME HERE AS THERE ARE EVERYWHERE, BUT IF SO THEY CONSTITUTE AN INSIGNIFICANT MINORITY,

END FIVE.

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

R-BH  
(29)...

The filing time shown:

TA 16

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1947 OCT 16 AM

T.HD109 PD/6=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

THE PARALLEL OF WHICH IS TO BE FOUND IN EVERY AMERICAN INDUSTRY AND IN EVERY AMERICAN MEDIUM WE SEE NO REASON, OTHER THAN THE POLITICAL CAPITAL AND HEADLINES WHICH ARE TO BE SECURED FROM THE SEEMINGLY EAST TARGET OF HOLLYWOOD AND ITS PEOPLE FOR SINGLING OUT THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY.

¶ MOREOVER, IF THERE BE ANY THREAT FROM THIS HANDFUL OF COMMUNISTS, THERE EXIST GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT ARE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED TO HANDLE SUCH THREATS TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, NAMELY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND THE COURTS. IWE BELIEVE THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, WHICH IS MAINTAINED AT ENORMOUS PUBLIC EXPENSE UNDER THE ABLE LEADERSHIP OF J. EDGAR HOOVER, HAS DEMONSTRATED FOR MANY YEARS ITS ABILITY TO COPE WITH SABATEURS OF DEMOCRACY, IN TIMES OF WAR AND OF PEACE ALIKE.

¶ FURTHER, THE FBI IS CLEARLY IN A FAR SUPERIOR POSITION TO EITHER THE INDUSTRY OR TO ANY CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE IN DETERMINING WHO IS, AND WHO IS NOT, A COMMUNIST, AND FROM AMOUNG THOSE WHO ARE COMMUNISTS, WHICH ARE OF THE MOSCOW VARIETY.

END SIX.

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

## SYMBOLS

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NLT = Cable Night Letter

The filing time at

TA 17

a line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

T.HD109 PD/7=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

CERTAINLY, THE STUDIOS OF HOLLYWOOD HAVE NOT THE SLIGHTEST OBLIGATION, LEGAL OR MORAL, TO DISCHARGE A MAN, EVEN IF HE IS PROVEN TO BE A COMMUNIST, UNTIL IT IS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT HE IS GUILTY OF TREASONABLE ACTIVITIES. ON THE CONTRARY, NO STUDIO HAS THE RIGHT, LEGAL OR MORAL, TO DISCHARGE A MAN FOR HIS POLITICAL BELIEFS; AND WE WISH TO GO ON RECORD AS STATING THAT WE CONDEMN AS UN-AMERICAN ANY EMPLOYER WHO WOULD DISCHARGE AN EMPLOYEE FOR ANY SUCH REASON

THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HAS ESTABLISHED AS A CRIMINAL ACT PARTICIPATION IN ANY ACTIVITY DESIGNED TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY FORCE. WE WELCOME IN THE FUTURE, AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST, ANY AND EVERY INVESTIGATION BY THE FBI LOOKING TOWARD THE FERRETING OUT OF ANY AND EVERY MEMBER OF ANY GROUP THAT IS DEDICATED TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT BY FORCE, OR THAT GIVES SECRET ALLEGIANCE TO ANY FOREIGN POWER. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO EXTEND COOPERATION LOOKING TOWARD THE ELIMINATION OF ANY SUCH INDIVIDUALS FROM THE INDUSTRY, AND TOWARD TURNING THEM OVER TO THE PROPER

END SEVEN.



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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

## SYMBOLS

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Ship Radiogram

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TA23 .

T.HD109 PD/8=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

1947 OCT 16 AM 11 40

AUTHORITIES, SUBJECT ONLY TO OUR REFUSAL TO BE TURNED INTO AN AMERICAN GESTAPO IN PURSUITE OF INDIVIDUALS WHO THERE IS NO SOUND REASON TO BELIEVE HAVE TREASONABLE INTENTIONS

¶ GOING BEYOND SUCH TRAITORS, IF ANY, IN OUR MIDST: WE HAVE NO SYMPATHY WITH, AND EVEN LESS UNDERSTANDING OF, THOSE AMERICANS WHO WOULD TRADE FOR OUR PROUD DEMOCRACY A WAY OF LIFE AND A FORM OF GOVERNMENT WHICH, WHEREVER TRIED, HAS PROVEN TO BE DESTRUCTIVE OF THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF THE INDIVIDUAL, WHICH WE SO DEARLY CHERISH. BUT, UNTIL AND UNLESS THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS OUTLAWED, WE DEMAND RECOGNITION OF THE COMPLETE RIGHT OF ANY AMERICAN TO BE A MEMBER OF THAT PARTY (OR, INDEED, OF ANY LEGALLY CONSTITUTED POLITICAL PARTY), WITHOUT JEOPARDY TO HIS FREEDOM OR HIS EMPLOYMENT. TO HOLD ANY CONTRARY VIEW WOULD IN OUR OPINION BE THE UNTHINKABLE EQUIVALENT OF THE TREATMENT OF DEMOCRATS IN THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE COMMUNISM PREVAILS. WE WISH EVER TO BE JEALOUS OF OUR BILL OF RIGHTS, HOWEVER MUCH WE MAY DISAGREE WITH POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES WHICH ARE ESPOUSED UNDER ITS PROTECTION.

¶ WE OF COURSE FEEL THAT IF AND WHEN IT IS PROVEN THAT THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA OR ANY OTHER PARTY OWES ITS ALLEGIANCE TO ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, IT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY BE OUTLAWED.

COMPAN

ESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

END EIGHT.

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

(47).

## SYMBOLS

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Ship Radiogram

The address is

TA28 T.HD109 PD/9=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

TIME at point of destination

1947 OCT 16 AM 11 40

¶ WE OF COURSE FEEL THAT ANY PERSON WHO PERJURED HIMSELF AS TO HIS ALLEGIANCE OF ANY OTHER MATTER IN ENTERING THIS COUNTRY SHOULD BE JAILED OR DEPORTED.

¶ WE OF COURSE FEEL THAT ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO SECRETLY AND WITHOUT REGISTRATION TAKES HIS ORDERS FROM A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IS GUILTY OF TREASON, AND SHOULD BE TRIED ACCORDINGLY; BUT WE FEEL THAT THSE TRIALS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH BASIC AMERICAN PRINCIPLES, WITH PROPER RIGHTS OF DEFENSE, AND THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE SUBSTITUTED FOR SUCH TRAILS MERE DEMAGOGIC APPEALS TO PUBLIC OPINION. AS TO THE DESTRUCTION OF REPUTATIONS AND LIBERTIES BY PROCEEDINGS WHICH ARE THE EQUIVALENT OF TRAILS BUT WITHOUT RIGHTS OF DEFENSE, WE FEEL THAT THE MOTION PICTURE SCREEN IN ALL ITS POWER, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER MEDIA, SHOULD BE ALERTED AND WHEN NECESSARY MOBILIZED, TO THE END THAT A DEFENSE MAY BE PRESENTED TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

¶ FURTHER, WE RESENT THE CARELESS HURLING OF THE WORD "COMMUNIST" AT EVERY LEFTWING MEMBER OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OR EVEN ITS MORE RADICAL SPLINTER GROUPS. WE RESENT THIS EXACTLY AS MUCH, AND FOR PRECISELY THE SAME REASON, AS WE HAVE RESENTED THE HURLING OF THE TERMS "FASCIST" AND "TOOL OF WALL STREET" AT SINCERE RIGHT-WING AMERICANS OF  
END NINE.



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JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

## SYMBOLS

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The filing time shown

TA29

on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

T. HD109 PD/10=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO 1947 OCT 16 AM 11 08

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY -- INCLUDING WENDELL WILLKIE, WHO SO NOBLY AND SUCCESSFULLY RUSHED TO THE INDUSTRY'S DEFENSE WHEN IT LAST FACED AN UNWARRANTED ATTACK AND THREAT.

DESPERATELY WE WISH A RETURN TO THE AMERICA OF A FEW GENERATIONS AGO, AND OF MANY GENERATIONS BEFORE THAT, WHEN MEN OF GOOD WILL AND OF DIFFERENT POLITICAL FAITHS COULD ASSEMBLE IN TOWN MEETING, DISCUSS THEIR POLITICAL DIFFERENCES, AND REMAIN FRIENDS. FOR WHEN THE FREEDOM TO DISAGREE, THE RIGHT TO DISSENT, IS THREATENED IN AMERICA, THE WHOLE FABRIC OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY IS IN JEOPARDY

WE HOPE, AND HAVE CONFIDENCE, THAT WE SHALL BE BUT THE FIRST OF COUNTLESS REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS TO RECOGNIZE THAT IT IS OUR DUTY AND OBLIGATION AS AMERICANS TO DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF AMERICANS OF POLITICAL FAITHS DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN.

WE FEEL IT WOULD BE AS OUTRAGEOUSLY UNFAIR TO ATTEMPT TO BRAND HOLLYWOOD AS BEING COMMUNIST-RIDDEN AND COMMUNIST-DOMINATED AS IT WOULD BE TO ATTACK THE BUREAU OF PRINTING AND ENGRAVING AS BEING COMMUNIST-RIDDEN AND COMMUNIST-DOMINATED BECAUSE IT PRINTS THE COMMUNIST PARTY SYMBOL AND CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOTS WHICH ARE PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT AT THE TAXPAYERS' EXPENSE.=

END TEN.

## CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION 551..

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

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Ship Radiogram

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TA 38

1947 JUL 16 AM 11 40

T. HD109 PD/11=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

WE HAVE LONG FOUGHT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF RACE OR COLOR. WE REGARD ANY ATTACK BECAUSE OF POLITICAL FAITH AS BEING A COMPARABLY MONSTROUS AND UNTENABLE AFFRONT TO THE BASIC TENETS UPON WHICH THE COUNTRY WAS FOUNDED, AND UPON WHICH IT HAS GROWN TO A STRENGTH NEVER APPROACHED BY ANY OTHER NATION IN HISTORY, A STRENGTH GREAT ENOUGH TO SAVE THE VERY EXISTENCE OF COMMUNIST RUSSIA AFTER IT HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY ITS FORMER FELLOW-CONSPIRATOR AGAINST THE LIBERTIES OF MAN

WE REGARD THE INVESTIGATION AS PARTICULARLY ILL-TIMED IN VIEW OF THE STRUGGLE WHICH THE INDUSTRY IS MAKING TO SURVIVE IN THE FACE OF THE RECENT HEAVY BLOWS TO IT ABROAD, AND THE CONSEQUENT SEVERE DANGER TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE MARKETS AND SCREENS OF THE WORLD FOR THE GREATEST, AND ALMOST ONLY, MEDIUM AVAILABLE INTERNATIONALLY IN THE IDEOLOGICAL WAR WHICH OUR COUNTRY IS PRESENTLY WAGING. THIS DANGER OBVIOUSLY EXTENDS ALSO TO THE EMPLOYMENT AND THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE THOUSANDS OF WORKERS IN THE INDUSTRY.

END ELEVEN.

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JOSEPH L. EGAN  
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1220

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.TA40

T.HD109 PD/12=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

AT SUCH A TIME, WE MIGHT EXPECT THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OUR ADMINISTRATION TO RALLY TO THE DEFENSE OF THE AMERICAN MOTION PICTURE, INSTEAD OF AIDING OUR JEALOUS RIVALS AND FOREIGN ENEMIES TO DISCREDIT IT.

¶ WE ARE TIRED OF OUR INDUSTRY, AND OF OUR PROFESSION, AND OF OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, ETERNALLY BEING PLACED IN A DEFENSIVE POSITION BY EVERY GROUP SEEKING NOTORIETY AT HOLLYWOOD'S EXPENSE. WE HAVE FAITH THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE ELECTED CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE RESENT EQUALLY WITH US ABUSES OF THE POWERS OF THE CONGRESS AND THAT, EQUALLY WITH US, THEY RECOGNIZE THAT THESE RIGHTS FLOW TO CONGRESS FROM THE PEOPLE, AND ARE INTENDED LARGELY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE AND OF EVERY GROUP, LARGE OR SMALL.

¶ MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE ARE FEARFUL FOR THE CIVIL LIBERTIES OF OTHER AMERICANS IF THE PEOPLE OF THIS INDUSTRY, ALWAYS MERELY THE FIRST TO SUFFER FROM WITCH-HUNTS, DO NOT ORGANIZE THEMSELVES IN DEFENSE OF THE REPUTATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT AND LIBERTIES OF THOSE

END TWELVE.



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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

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.TA42

1947 OCT 13 AM 11:40

T.HD109 PD/13=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

AMONG THE DEFENDANTS WHO ARE INNOCENT OF ANY TRAITOROUS ACTIVITIES OR INTENTIONS AND BEING INNOCENT, SHOULD HAVE NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO FEAR. HOPEFULLY THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE WILL SO CONDUCT THE INVESTIGATION AS TO OBVIATE THESE FEARS, AND THUS MAKE OUR AID UNNECESSARY BUT EVEN IF THIS SHOULD BE TRUE, WE BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN FAR TOO LONG A DELAY IN THE FORMATION OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS PREPARED TO SERVE NOTICE THAT A DEFENSE IS AVAILABLE AGAINST INJUSTICE TO OUR PEOPLE AND THEIR WORK.

¶ ACCORDINGLY, WE HEREBY INVITE OTHER AMERICANS OF HOLLYWOOD TO JOIN WITH US IN THE ORGANIZATION OF A JOINT REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND TO THE DEFENSE OF THE GOOD NAME OF THE INDUSTRY AND THE INDIVIDUALS WHO COMPRISE IT.

¶ FINALLY, WE WISH TO POINT OUT THAT NONE OF THE UNDERSIGNED HAS BEEN SUBPOENED; AND TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, NONE OF US IS BELIEVED TO BE SUSPECT TO TREASON. HOWEVER,

END THIRTEEN.

## CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN  
UNIONJOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

15)..

## SYMBOLS

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Ship Radiogram

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TA43

1947 JUL 16 AM 11 40

T.HD109 PD/14=HOLLYWOOD CALIF STASSEN CHGO=

WE WISH TO MAKE OURSELVES AVAILABLE FOR QUERY BY THE  
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE IF IT SINCERELY WISHES TO GO FURTHER  
IN DETERMINING THE TRUTH. REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC JOINT  
COMMITTEE OF HOLLYWOOD (FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CIVIL  
LIBERTIES, AND THE DEFENSE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MOTION  
PICTURE INDUSTRY) UNQUOTE WARMEST REGARDS CORDIALLY AND  
SINCERELY YOURS=

DAVID.

DAVID O. SELZNICK  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

October 17, 1947

*movement*

*Sh*

Mr. Harold E. Stassen  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Harold:

This will reintroduce to you Whitney Bolton, whom you met at the dinner out here, and who has with him the revised statement and all other plans.

Cordially and sincerely,

*David*

dos:lh



En route Chicago - October 19th.

Mr. David Selznick:

The following is a preliminary draft which expresses my position on the current situation in which you are interested. I have already started conveying my views to the Republican leadership in Congress privately, and will begin checking this exact statement with my top advisors at once. In my judgement if fifteen or more first-rate people of both political parties and including business and labor and if possible, clergy of the three faiths, will join in such a letter, it should be delivered to the Committee on the first indication that they are violating these principles in the manner in which they are conducting the investigation, and then released to the press and radio after delivery. I

I will welcome criticisms or suggestions as to wording of the message.

Preliminary draft not for release

Honorable Parnall Thomas  
House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D. C.

We the undersigned citizens of the United States, Republicans, Democrats and Independents, of divergent religious faiths, nationality backgrounds and occupations, none of whom are affiliated in any way manner to the Motion Picture Industry, respectfully request your consideration of this letter.

It is our view that the motion picture, with its remarkable facility for presenting viewpoints and facts simultaneously and dramatically to both the eye and the ear of the people, is an implement of exceptional value to America and to the future freedom of mankind.

It is our conviction that the top leadership of the Motion Picture Industry and the overwhelming majority of the stars, writers, directors, cameramen, and technicians, are unquestionably loyal to the United States of America and to the fundamental concepts of human rights and individual freedom in our Constitution, and are as anxious to serve our common country and our common cause as are any other citizens in government, or business, or labor, or any other

walk of life, as was demonstrated in the War.

It is our understanding of the laws of the United States that it is not at this time nor has it been in the years past, against the law to be a Communist unless it is proven that the objective is to overthrow our government by force or unless treasonable conduct is established and it is our further understanding that it will require action by Congress to change this present state of our laws.

It is our view that anyone who is a Communist or Fascist who masquerades behind a false name or a false front should be vigorously exposed.

It is our firm belief that there should be complete respect for the constitutional rights, and civil liberties, and just and fair opportunities, for every man and woman in America, and that to depart from this will weaken our country rather than strengthen it.

In the light of the above premises we respectfully urge upon you and your committee that under the tension of current world relationships, exceptional care be taken that the motion picture industry as a whole be not unjustly smeared, that innocent and loyal



people be not carelessly humiliated and disgraced, that real evidence of Communist or Fascist subversives be thoroughly presented, and government rather seek the cooperation of the motion picture industry as to the exceptional part which it can take in the tasks which America faces and as to any laws which are needed to correct existing problems.

End of preliminary draft - not for release.

HES

*Selznick  
Hollywood  
ful*

7

*Movement*

Lionel Barrymore

Charles Brackett

Frank Capra

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

Gene Fowler

John Huston

Walter Huston

Gene Markey

Gregory Peck

Rosalind Russell

David O. Selznick

George Stevens

Spencer Tracy

Walter Wanger

William Wyler

Darryl F. Zanuck

*John Hay Whitney  
Mrs. Ogden Reid  
Gardner Cowles  
Nelson Rockefeller  
Joseph Barnes  
R. Father Sheehan ?*

Oct. 22, 1947

*Motion*

*File* *(1) Backett-Husden*  
*Seligman* *Hollywood*

We ~~the~~ undersigned Republicans and Democrats of the Motion Picture Industry, wish to state our protests to certain aspects of the Investigation of the Industry presently taking place in Washington.

This nation has been warned of the threat to our security and peace from International Communism. These warnings have come from national leaders of both great political parties, and from those charged with our national defense; from our President, who owes his high office to the studied faith and confidence of the liberal Democrat, Franklin D. Roosevelt; and from George Marshall, our Secretary of State, a man of unquestioned wisdom and integrity.

Under these circumstances, the Congress would be remiss in its duties if it did not examine the threat, looking towards a determination as to whether or not new legislation is necessary. Before criticizing the present hearing, we must bear in mind that the duties of the Congress include protection of "the common defense, the general welfare, and the blessings of liberty, to ourselves and our posterity."

The law of the land makes it a criminal offence to plot the overthrow of the Government by force. We trust the Congress will always be alert in taking whatever measures may be necessary to further implement this law, and to guard the nation against any plot against democracy, whether emanating at home or abroad.

However, the Congress is bound equally by the Bill of Rights, composed of the ten original Amendments to the Constitution. Article Nine of the Bill of Rights states: "The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to



deny or disparage other rights retained by the people." We believe that those rights of the people include the protection of their good name, <sup>and</sup> protection from libel under whatever guise.

Specifically, Article Six of the Bill of Rights provides that "in all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation ... to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel in his defense."

We maintain that Congressional investigations, <sup>g</sup> such as the one presently taking place <sup>g</sup> are not merely investigations, for if this were their full nature, they could be conducted without endangering the reputations and livelihood and happiness of the innocent for the alleged purpose of tracking down the guilty. We maintain that such investigations are tantamount to trials, in which the investigators assume the roles of prosecutors, on which public opinion sits in judgment, with effectiveness at least comparable to that of highly constituted judges.

We therefore urge, in the name of justice, that any person so questioned be ringed about with all the protections accorded by our law to those under indictment.

There is in us, and we must confess it, a suspicion that such unnecessary, destructive and un-American procedure is motivated by the desire for publicity at the expense of Hollywood and its people, always a target for those desiring to advance themselves politically on a popular issue. And we call attention to the fact that the Constitution and Bill of Rights were expressly

designed to protect minorities and unpopular opinions.

To give force to the preceding, we must make clear our attitude towards Communism: We are opposed to it as a way of life. We have no sympathy with nor understanding of those Americans who would trade for our proud democracy a way of life and a form of Government which, wherever tried, have proved to be destructive of the rights and freedoms of the individual, which we so dearly cherish. Of course, we feel strongly that any American whose allegiance to a foreign power can be proven, is a traitor. Of course, we feel strongly that any alien who per-jures himself in entering this country should be punished with deportation or otherwise.

But, however strong our feelings against Communism, we feel, just as strongly, that mass hysteria must not be permitted to usurp Constitutional privileges, nor to blur a single phrase of the Bill of Rights. It is our fear that tampering or compromising with any section of this charter of liberty, however expedient from the current viewpoint, however tempting to the current emotion, could destroy the whole, and for all time.

To add further strength to our protest against trials by implication, such as the current Congressional hearing, allow us to point out that Communism is not illegal. We presume and we hope fervently that, should the Communist Party of America or any other party or group, be proven to the satisfaction of our lawmakers and the Courts to be disloyal, it will be outlawed. But until or unless laws are passed establishing Communism as being a subversive or otherwise criminal philosophy, we are obliged in

scrupulous devotion to our Constitution and Bill of Rights, to protect every man and every woman from the inquisition of pseudo-trial and popular judgment for a non-existent crime.

Any contrary attitude seems to us to be the unthinkable equivalent of the treatment of Democrats in those countries where Communist or Fascistic dictatorship presently prevails. We hope always to be jealous of our political freedom, however strongly we may disagree with political philosophies that are espoused under its protection. And we wish to protect the rights of the individual against lynch law as a substitute for Constitutional and legal processes, regardless of whether the noose be made of rope or of public opinion.

In these tense times, it may seem inexpedient to defend the political rights of some who perhaps assail democracy itself. However, the strength of democracy lies in its tolerance, without which we are no longer a free people. We have little fear that opening the forum to extreme fringes can result in the American electorate's trading its glorious heritage for potential tyranny.

We do not deny that there are Communists in Hollywood, as there are in many American communities, but we, as members of the Industry, know them to be an inconsiderable minority. We therefore can see no reason for making a circus of what pretends to be an investigation.

In this connection, we resent bitterly the careless hurling of the word "Communist" at Left-wing members of the Democratic Party or of independent non-Communist Leftist groups. We resent



this exactly as much, and for precisely the same reason, as we have resented the hurling of the terms "Fascist" and "tool of Wall Street" at sincere Right-wing Americans of the Republican Party -- including Wendell Willkie, who so nobly and successfully rushed to the industry's defense when it faced an unwarranted and similar attack.

The America we love and defend is the traditional America where men of good will and of different political faiths assemble in town meeting, discuss their political differences, and remain friends. For when the freedom to disagree, the right to dissent, is threatened in America, the whole fabric of our beloved country is endangered.

We wish to emphasize at this point that we are prepared to support the Constitutional privileges alike of both Right-wing and Left-wing political groups, insisting as a prerequisite to our support, that they hide behind no masks of name or purpose; and that they recognize the privileges of all minorities.

We feel that no witness should object to being asked under oath concerning his allegiance to this country, without reservation and without obligations, real or implied, to any foreign power or party.

We offer wholehearted support to those who can give such an oath. We have no support for any who refuse to swear fealty.

Until an individual is proven guilty of treachery under the law, we feel that the motion picture industry should give another demonstration of its Americanism by mobilizing itself, in all its

untapped power, in defense of the reputations of any of its members who are being unfairly tried before public opinion. We feel that this defense should include a united front in support of continuing employment, and new employment, for those whose talents warrant it, and who are guilty of nothing but free exercise of the American vote.

We hope that we may obtain the aid of the motion picture's sister media, the press and the radio, in this endeavor -- for it is clear that jeopardy to the freedom of one medium means eventual jeopardy to the freedom of all.

Finally, we resent the fact that our industry, our professions, our families and our friends, should be recurrently placed in a defensive position by those who seek to discredit us. We have faith that the great majority of the elected Congressional representatives of the American people resent equally with us distortions of the powers of the Congress; and that, equally with us, they recognize that these rights flow to Congress from the people, and are intended largely for the preservation of the rights of the people and of every group, large or small, popular or unpopular.

We invite other Americans of the motion picture industry to join with us in the organization of a committee dedicated to the preservation of American civil liberties, and to the defense of the good name of the Industry and the individuals who comprise it.

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