

182 of Government's 2 Million Employees Fired for Disloyalty

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington, March 10 (AP)—The government's loyalty program is three years old this month. Under it, 182 of the government's 2,000,000 employees have been fired for disloyalty.

An additional 2,476 quit while under FBI investigation or—having been investigated—before government officials could make a decision as to their loyalty or disloyalty.

Some republicans, like Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin and Senator Malone of Nevada, say they still are not satisfied with the program.

Right now McCarthy is charging there still are communists or communist sympathizers in the government.

President Truman by executive order set up the loyalty investigation program March 22, 1947. This was at a time when relations with Russia were wretched and congressmen were calling for a loyalty check.

This was the program: All government employees not already checked for loyalty were to be checked over. They had to fill out forms giving the history of their lives for the previous 10 years.

These forms went to the FBI which checked them against information in the FBI files. If anything suspicious was found, the FBI then started a full-scale investigation of the individual.

Of course, information given the government about an employee would bring an FBI investigation, too. The results of the FBI investigation went to a three-man loyalty board set up in each government agency.

If the FBI report made an employee's loyalty seem questionable, the board held hearings. If then the agency loyalty board thought the man should be fired, he could appeal to the agency head. For instance, to the secretary of state.

If the agency head upheld his board and ordered the man fired, the man could make one last appeal: to the loyalty review board, a 21-man board appointed by the president.

If this board, after hearing the man's case, decided the disloyalty findings against him were justified, he was fired. There was no other appeal. If it found in his favor, he was safe.

(This loyalty review board has restored to their jobs 134 employees who appealed to it.)

Of the 182 fired for disloyalty since 1947, about 106 had been working for the government for some time. The remaining 76 were newly hired people. Altogether the FBI thought it necessary to make a full scale investigation of 11,619 employees.

To Continue Rent Control

Washington, Mar. 10 (AP)—The senate today approved increased funds to continue rent control only to June 30. But its action apparently did not close the door against a later vote by con-

Senator Malone is not satisfied with the set-up of the present loyalty review board which is answerable to the president. He wants congress to set up a review board which would be an independent government agency.

Malone says that under the president's board, department heads "could and did ignore the board's findings at will." It's doubtful congress will do anything about Malone's idea.

(An official of the president's board says there is not a single case where a department head has kept an employe found disloyal by the president's review board.)

McCarthy has particularly banged away at the state department in charging that there are communists or their sympathizers still in the government.

The senate foreign relations committee has appointed a subcommittee to look into what he has to say. Its investigation started yesterday.

Pays \$50,000 To Kidnapers

Manila, P. I., March 10 (AP)—A kidnaped Manila businessman was released unharmed today after his family paid a \$50,000 ransom.

The victim, Vicente Araneta, president of the Ramie Development corporation, identified his kidnapers as guerrillas who fought the Japanese during the war.

He said they told him at first they were Hukbalahaps, communist-led dissident peasants who have been fighting the government since the end of the war. Later, however he learned they were not, he said.

Araneta was snatched Sunday from an estate in Cavite province, 40 miles south of Manila. He said the kidnapers are still holding five men as hostages for his freedom.

He suggested that the constabulary refrain from hunting down the kidnapers because they might harm the hostages.

Araneta told a press conference that the guerrillas were disgruntled because their efforts against the Japanese never were recognized by the United States and they therefore drew no back army pay.

gress to keep the lid on rents for another year.

What the senate did was this: It voted 44 to 28 to accept a compromise bill carrying \$2,600,000 to pay off some of the 4,100 employes of the rent agency by June 30. The appropriation committee had recommended that amount with a view to a complete shutdown at the end of this fiscal year, June 30.

It also voted an additional \$1-

400,000 to continue full operation of controls until June 30.

Under the compromise the office of housing expediter Tighe Woods gets \$4,000,000 instead of the \$3,600,000 it had asked to continue enforcement. The compromise this partially reversed the action of the appropriations committee.

President Truman has asked that controls be continued until June 30, 1951.

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