

Ike Attends Press Party

PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER shook hands and chatted with Washington correspondents Monday and proved himself a good reporter.

Introduced by Sen Everett Dirksen, R-Ill, to a Washington correspondent for The Houston Post, the President quickly responded, "Oh, yes, I had lunch today with a citizen from your city—**L. F. McCollum**. He's an old friend of mine. He used to help me out when I was at Columbia."

McCollum, who is president of Continental Oil Co, had dined with the President Monday noon.

The President's meeting with the press was the first of its kind in Washington. He took advantage of a party thrown by Sen Dirksen, chairman of the Senate Republican senatorial campaign committee, to drop in and meet the press. The party also brought out all Republican senators, plus a number of Cabinet members.

The President arrived shortly after 5:30 in good spirits and stayed about an hour, shaking hands around the room.

Introduced to **Walter Hornaday** of the Dallas Morning News, the President quipped, "Don't hear anything good about Dallas. You see, one of my best friends is **Amon Carter**."

Everyone had a Texas story.

Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson, who remained at the party nearly three hours, told The Post that he has "lots of good friends in Texas."

"My younger brother, Bob, lived there before he died. He was in the oil and gas business in Corpus Christi and he loved it. I called him up one time and asked how he was getting along down there. "Well," he told me, "when they say damn Yankee now they don't mean it."

Another Texas angle on hand was **Sid Richardson** of Fort Worth. Texas reporters pushed him for an answer on the rumor that he and **Movie Actress Joan Crawford** will be married.

"You know," Richardson drawled, "you reporters have to have something to write about. When there isn't anything, you

invent something. That one was invented."

Smiling broadly, Mr Eisenhower listened to a gay 90's quartet sing a musical tribute to **Mrs Eisenhower**, and then he made his way through the crowded ballroom, shaking hands.

Just before Mr Eisenhower arrived, **Sen Joseph R. McCarthy**, R-Wis, who recently criticized administration handling of foreign policy—started to leave.

Spotting a group of reporters at the door, he laughed and remarked that he really ought to leave to keep another engagement, but figured that if he did some reporters might write that "I snubbed the President."

With that, McCarthy turned and went back into the room. Mr Eisenhower was just about ready to leave when McCarthy spotted him, walked over and shook hands and talked in a low voice to the President.

Newsmen could not hear what McCarthy said, but the President laughed heartily and then asked the senator:

"What does that mean, Joe?"

McCarthy later laughingly declined to say what he told Mr Eisenhower, saying he couldn't remember.

On his tour of the ballroom Mr Eisenhower also came across **Sen William Jenner**, R-Ind, who once called **Gen George C. Marshall**—Mr Eisenhower's Army chief during World War II—a "front man for traitors."

"Oh, hello Bill," Mr Eisenhower greeted Jenner as the senator extended his hand, which the President grasped.

Mr Eisenhower also chatted with several other Republican members of Congress

BLONDE ACTRESS Shelley Winters carried her marital battle with her Italian husband, **Victorio Gassman**, into the courts