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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

March 21, 1950

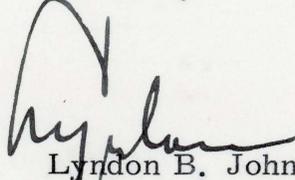
Mr. Wood

Dear Amon:

The attached letter is somewhat encouraging. Apparently the State Department is aware of this situation and is making some attempt to do something about it.

If I hear something further on this I will be sure to let you know. My warm personal regards.

Sincerely



Lyndon B. Johnson

Honorable Amon Carter
Fort Worth Star Telegram
Fort Worth, Texas

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



In reply refer to
PL 566.1121/3-750

March 20, 1950

MAR 21 A.M.

My dear Senator Johnson:

I have received your letter of March 7, 1950, enclosing a communication addressed to you by Mr. Amon G. Carter, President of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Fort Worth, Texas, concerning the circulation of Rumanian propagand material in the United States.

The Department of State is aware of the propagand nature of material emanating from the Rumanian Legation. Such material, circulated as it is by the Legation, will necessarily reflect the official views of the Rumanian Government, and it may be expected to present Rumania in particular and Communism in general in the most favorable light. These activities of the Rumanian Legation have been sanctioned by the United States Government as an evidence of its adherence to the principles of freedom of press and publication.

You are familiar with the efforts of the United States Government, through its representatives and organizations and through the United Nations and other media, to obtain acceptance by all nations of the principle of world-wide freedom of information. Freedom of the press and free access to information are basic tenets of democracy and this Government has been endeavoring to extend this concept. The free dissemination of information is one of the most potent weapons which the western democracies can use against Communism.

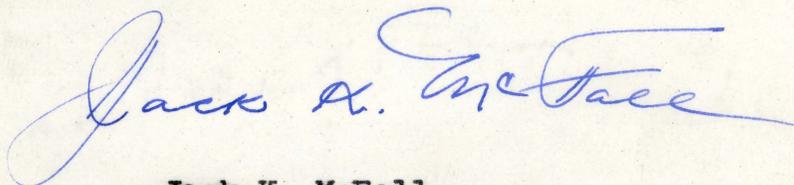
The

The Honorable
Lyndon B. Johnson,
United States Senate.

The Rumanian Government on March 2, 1950 summarily demanded the immediate discontinuance of the United States Information Service Office of the American Legation at Bucharest stating that it did not consider the activities of the Information Office a normal diplomatic function. In its note of March 6 to the Rumanian Government, the United States Government asked: "Is the United States Government given to understand by the Rumanian Government's action against the U.S.I.S. in Rumania that it intends to cease these activities on the part of its diplomatic representatives in the United States?" Thus the entire question of the public activities of the Rumanian Legation is under consideration and, it is anticipated, will be clarified in the near future as a consequence of the current negotiations in this regard.

A copy of the Department's press release, containing the text of the United States note under reference, is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,



Jack K. McFall
Assistant Secretary

Enclosures:

Department Press Release No. 211.
Letter from Mr. Carter, March 2, 1950