

NAVY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OIR:510:mm

25 Mar 1948

CIRCULAR LETTER

To: All Naval and Marine Corps Activities Concerned.

Subj: Confidential Status of Employee Loyalty Records.

Refs: (a) NCPI 29.  
(b) Memorandum to all Officers and Employees in the Executive Branch of the Government, Volume 13, Number 52, Federal Register, 16 March 1948.

1. Reference (b) is quoted herewith for information:

MEMORANDUM TO ALL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT

The efficient and just administration of the Employee Loyalty Program, under Executive Order No. 9835 of March 21, 1947, requires that reports, records, and files relative to the program be preserved in strict confidence. This is necessary in the interest of our national security and welfare, to preserve the confidential character and sources of information furnished, and to protect Government personnel against the dissemination of unfounded or disproved allegations. It is necessary also in order to insure the fair and just disposition of loyalty cases.

For these reasons, and in accordance with the long-established policy that reports rendered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other investigative agencies of the executive branch are to be regarded as confidential, all reports, records, and files relative to the loyalty of employees or prospective employees (including reports of such investigative agencies), shall be maintained in confidence, and shall not be transmitted or disclosed except as required in the efficient conduct of business,

Any subpoena or demand or request for information, reports, or files of the nature described, received from sources other than those persons in the executive branch of the Government who are entitled thereto by reason of their official duties, shall be respectfully declined, on the basis of this directive, and the subpoena or demand or other request shall be referred to the Office of the President

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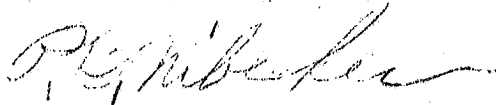
for such response as the President may determine to be in the public interest in the particular case. There shall be no relaxation of the provisions of this directive except with my express authority. This directive shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

/s/ HARRY S. TRUMAN

The White House

March 13, 1948

2. Whenever demands or requests are made upon Naval activities in contravention of the provisions of reference (b), such requests must be denied and the Office of Industrial Relations immediately notified.



P. B. NIBECKER  
Chief  
Office of Industrial Relations

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