

## The Red Scare

- Richard Nixon started anti-communist Congressional Investigation – State Department officials Alger Hiss, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg were accused of being communist spies = started a witch hunt.
- Would investigate Hollywood, the American Communist Party, and other left-wing organizations
- Joseph McCarthy was appointed chair of the Government Committee on Operations of the Senate, said that 57 members of the State Department were members of the Communist Party = paranoia in US, suggestion of guilt was enough to destroy careers.
- Only way to convince McCarthy you weren't with the Communist Party was to name other members of the party
- For two years he published lists of anti-American books, investigated government organizations and the army – Politicians didn't denounce him for fear of being labeled as communist sympathizers
  - o McCarthy's reign ended in December 1954 after an investigative news program run by Edward R. Murrow questioned his investigating techniques and methods and swayed public opinion.