Honorable Joseph R. McCarthy
Chairman
Committee on Government Operations
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator McCarthy:

Section 203(e) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377, Public Law 152, 81st Congress), as recently amended by subsection (1) of section 1 of Public Law 522, 82nd Congress, provides as follows:

"(e) Unless the Administrator of General Services shall determine that disposal by advertising will in a given case better protect the public interest, surplus property disposals may be made without regard to any provision of existing law for advertising until 12 o'clock noon, eastern standard time, June 30, 1953: Provided, That an explanatory statement shall be prepared and submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress and a copy preserved in the file of all cases where negotiated disposal occurs."

I am enclosing herewith the explanatory statement required by the proviso in the above-quoted section relative to the proposed disposal of certain property known as the Manhattanville Post Office Site, West 124th Street, New York, New York. It is submitted in advance of the proposed action in accordance with the indication appearing on page 5 of Senate Report No. 2075 on H. R. 5350 (Public Law 522, 82nd Congress) that it was intended to require submission of the statement prior to consummation of the disposal. Pursuant to the foregoing authority, the approval of this statement by me will also serve to authorize the Regional Director, Region 2, General Services Administration, New York, New York, to negotiate and consummate the sale of the property on and after May 15, 1953.

Under the circumstances outlined in the enclosed statement, I am unable to determine in this case that disposal by advertising will
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better protect the public interest. Hence, I am authorizing the sale of the post office site by negotiation to the New York City Housing Authority for its assessed valuation of $185,000.

Sincerely yours,

RUSSELL FORBES
Acting Administrator

Enclosure