NEWS RELEASE ~~FOR THURSDAY~~ **AUGUST 27th 1959**

Boston Redevelopment Authority
73 Tremont Streak Boston

The Members of the Boston Redevelopment Authority flatly and emphatically deny the allegations contained in the bill of complaint filed in Suffolk Superior Court by 14 petitioners in opposition to the proposed erection of a $27 million Federal Building in the Newspaper Row section of Washington Street*

The charges made by the petitioners are untrue, specious* scurrilous, irresponsible and preposterous,

Approval of the Washington Street site for the Federal Building was voted by four members of the Boston Redevelopment Authority * the Very Rev* Francis J$_0$ lolly, James G, Colbert, Stephen E$_a$ McCloskey and Melvftn J« Massucco*

Sf the petitioners seeking to block the erection of a $27 million Federal Building had taken the trouble to ascertain the facts, they would have found that Chairman Joseph Wo Lund was not present when this matter was voted upon.

The allegation that Chairman Lund exerted undue influence upon the other members of the Redevelopment Authority to obtain the approval of the Washington Street site is so untrue as to be fantastic.

The fact of the matter is that Mr, Lund was Ul when this decision was made by the Redevelopment Authority;

Therefore, he was not available to be consulted before the Redevelopment Authority voted for the Washington Street site in order to obtain for Boston a $27 million Federal Building that is vital to the proposed Government Centre and to the future of the city.

In casting their votes on this question* the Redevelopment Authority members

were influenced only by what they considered was beat for Boston and its citizen*,

The Redevelopment Authority members flatly contradict and deeply resent the mendacious, unfounded and reckless charges which, although clothed by a court petition,, can only be regarded as a deliberate smear*

Signed:

(Very Rev,) Francis J« Lally
James Go Colbert
Stephen £, McCloskey
Melvin J. Massucco

Member*, Boston Redevelopment Authority