December 20, 1946

Lt. General Hoyt S. Vandenberg  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington 25, D.C.

My dear General Vandenberg:

Your estimates of requirements for the fiscal year 1948 and the information presented by your representatives from the Central Intelligence Group have been given careful analysis. The President has approved the budgets of the Departments of State, War and Navy, which provide a total amount for the Central Intelligence Group of [redacted]. This amount will be furnished by the Departments in the ratio recommended by the CIG Budget Review Board on September 30, 1946.

Members of my staff will communicate to your budget officer the details and texts relating to the above amounts as they are reflected in the various appropriation estimates.

The President has asked me to remind you that the estimates he transmits to Congress reflect the program for the executive branch as a whole and are the only estimates to be supported before congressional committees. A copy of his memorandum is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Director

Enclosure
MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

I have noticed that on several occasions certain department and agency officials have shown a tendency to seek from Congress larger appropriations than were contemplated in official budget estimates.

The estimates which I transmit to Congress reflect a balanced program for the executive branch as a whole, and each individual estimate is considered in the light of this program, its relationship to other estimates, and the fiscal position of the Government. While agency witnesses before congressional committees must feel free to supply facts in answer to questions of committee members, I cannot condone the practice of seizing upon any opportunity which presents itself to indicate an opinion, either directly or indirectly, that my estimates are insufficient.

When you notify the heads of the various departments and agencies of the amounts to be included in the 1948 Budget for their activities, I wish you would include a reminder that I shall expect them and their subordinates to support only the President's estimates in hearings and discussions with members of Congress.