

APPROVED FOR RELEASE BY THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
DATE: 2001

GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT  
230 WEST 41ST STREET  
NEW YORK 18, NEW YORK

July 18, 1946

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Lieutenant General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, USA  
Director, National Intelligence Authority  
New War Department Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Vandenberg:

I have had a word with Senator McMahon and also with Representative Baldwin. Both expressed wholehearted and, indeed, enthusiastic interest and both have promised to see to it that the child does not get lost, strayed or stolen in the shuffle attending the end of the session.

I enclose herewith, for your private information, copies of the letters which I have written these gentlemen confirming and amplifying the conversations I had with them.

I think you may be reasonably certain that when you get the baby launched in the great world, his first toddling steps will be guided by friendly hands. My best wishes to you - which really means no more than that I wish success and safety to the United States. I shall hope to hear when I return that you are in business, and look forward to seeing you again in September.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

*George F. Eliot*

GFE/mb  
encs.

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J: General Vandenberg

SECRET

July 18, 1946

Senator Brien McMahon  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator McMahon:

This is just to recapitulate the situation regarding the National Intelligence Authority which is, as you know, under the direction of Major Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, U. S. Army.

This Authority was supposed to be taken care of by Section 202 of S. 2044 - the so-called merger bill, which definitely establishes it as an agency under the supervision of the Council of Common Defense. (In this bill, as it is presently drawn, it is called the Central Intelligence Agency.)

Meanwhile, the Authority is operating under the Executive Order of the President, who has set up to control it a board consisting of the Secretaries of State, War and Navy. It is operated by funds contributed from the budgets of these Departments. It has no budget of its own, and as you can see, it is extremely difficult for the Director to engage and train permanent personnel or to make definite plans for carrying on its work, which, to my mind, is absolutely essential to the security of the United States.

It now appears that S. 2044 has no chance of passage at this session and therefore the Council of Common Defense will not come into being. This will leave the National Intelligence Authority right where it is now, unless enabling legislation is passed by the Congress giving it a legal status and its own budget so that it can get on with its work. To meet this need, it is my understanding that a bill is being prepared in the Executive offices and will be introduced simultaneously in both houses in the hope that it may be passed and become law before this session of Congress ends. I have reason to believe that this bill was in course of preparation on Tuesday afternoon when I talked to you about the matter, but I do not know how soon it will be sent up to the "hill".

I am a little anxious about the fate of this legislation because it is a matter in which the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Military Affairs and Naval Affairs might all have a legitimate interest and unless the bill has a watchful friend who is looking after its welfare, it might very well get lost in the shuffle at the end of the session and thus leave our national intelligence

Senator McMahon and you say you are -2- ON JULY 18, 1946  
sadly crippled until next February, I think this would be very  
close to disastrous in view of the present international situation  
with which you are, of course, as fully conversant as I am. I was  
therefore very happy when you said you would look after this bill  
and do what was possible to get it passed. I doubt very much that  
there will be any great opposition to it, except from the usual  
crackpots. I have asked Mr. Joseph Clark Baldwin of New York, who  
is somewhat known for it on the Republican side of the House and who  
I hope you will find occasion to mention this to someone on the  
Democratic side of the House as well.  
I cannot emphasize strongly the great urgency of not los-  
ing six months' time in getting our central intelligence agency  
functioning. There are a lot of holes in our information about  
the rest of the world that need filling in. This requires first-  
class men who are not going to be attracted to this sort of work  
on a temporary basis. In any case, as you know, the government  
cannot pay salaries that will compete with private industry. The  
only way that men can be sold on such jobs is through the knowledge  
that they can serve the United States for a considerable period of  
time and be of real use to their country. I understand that it is  
General Vandenberg's hope to attract to the service of the intelli-  
gence authority a very high type of civilian personnel, which seems  
to be well in accord with some of the ideas that you and I talked  
over the other night. This is a policy which, in my opinion, de-  
serves the support of the people and the Congress of this country.  
Mrs. Eliot and I will long remember your kindness in helping  
us to secure good accommodations on the "Argentina", as well as  
the delightful evening we spent with you and Mrs. McMahon on Monday  
last. I hope that your own legislation gets through satisfactorily  
with the elimination of the unfortunate amendments which the House  
Committee had to write into it. I will strike another blow in this  
good sense before I leave the United States.

With all best wishes from both of us to you and your charming  
wife and daughter and looking forward to seeing you all when we  
return.

George Fielding Eliot

Sincerely yours,

George Fielding Eliot

GFE/mb

cc: General Vandenberg

SECRET

July 18, 1946

Hon. Joseph Clark Baldwin  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

7770-1072 Home

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

This is just to recapitulate the situation regarding the National Intelligence Authority which is, as you know, under the direction of Lt. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, U. S. Army.

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Mr. Baldwin  
July 18, 1946  
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All good luck to you and I will look forward to seeing you again sometime in September.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT

GFE/mb

6000

NEW YORK POST  
52 75 West Street, New York 6, N. Y.  
Whitehall 4-9000

COPY

George Fielding Eliot

November 17, 1947

Rear Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E Street, NW  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

This is a piece I did the other day in which I think you  
may possibly be interested.

Best wishes, and I hope to see you when I am next in  
Washington.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ George F. Eliot

GFE/pec

(Note: Incl, Article, New York Post, 11/7/47 "Soviet  
Propaganda is comes comic; implications are not."  
retained by Director)

Distribution:

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Exec. Reg. - *ang*

~~Central Records~~

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26 May 1947

Mr. George Fielding Eliot  
New York Post  
75 West Street  
New York 6, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Eliot:

Thank you very much for your kind and thoughtful letter of 21 May. It was very fine of you to send me congratulations, and I appreciate them a whole lot. I hated to leave Paris to come back here, but this is really a very fine job.

I do hope you will let me know when next you come to Washington and will drop in and see me.

With the very best wishes, please believe me,

Sincerely,

1/25/47  
E. A. Tamm  
Dear General, etc

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NEW YORK POST

COPY

75 West Street - New York 6, N. Y. - Whitehall 4-9000

May 21, 1947

Rear Admiral R. H. Hallinkoetter, USN  
Central Intelligence Group  
New War Department Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral Hallinkoetter:

I have the very great pleasure of sending you double congratulations in the same letter - first on your promotion to Rear Admiral and secondly, on your appointment as director of the Central Intelligence Group - both of which happy occurrences I heard of at the same time. No happier choice could have been made by the powers that be in both cases.

I hope you will find time to let me come and see you when I am next in Washington.

Looking forward to meeting you again and with my very best wishes for success in your new assignment, I am

Sincerely yours,

/s/

George Fielding Eliot

GFE/mb

Distribution:

1 cc Director  
1 cc Exec. Reg.  
2 cc Central Records

*sig* " "

2

25 NOV 1947

Mr. George Fielding Eliot  
New York Post  
75 West Street  
New York 6, New York

Dear Mr. Eliot:

Thank you for the letter enclosing your article in the Post.

Beside being perhaps the first ray of sunshine in these quarters following a somewhat severe hail storm, it was further welcomed for the keen grasp you have taken of some of the anomalies of the situation.

However, despite these ridiculous aspects of this passing storm, I can assure you that we here have taken the whole matter most seriously. I have avoided public rebuttal of the various charges, not only in pursuance of our policy of anonymity, but for fear of compromising both the investigative sources and also the identity, and perhaps future careers, of those few individuals.

Confronted with a total lack of precedent in the exercise of this authority to terminate employment "in the interests of the U. S.", we carefully studied all aspects of the problem before taking any action. I certainly am not so brash as to say we came to a perfect solution, but we have studiously kept improving the procedure as we discovered any weaknesses.

For your off-the-record guidance, I might point out several errors that have crept into some of the press reports. I list them briefly below:

- (1) we did not dismiss these people before the Board hearing but, wishing to keep them out of the shop until the matter was cleared up, we did suspend them on leave without pay. (In future cases we will allow them to go on leave with pay during that period);
- (2) we did allow them to resign voluntarily and without prejudice either before or after the Board hearing and up to the time that I personally gave my final decision to their case (25% of the total who were suspended resigned);

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(b)(3)

- (3) the fact that we reinstated fifty per cent of these employees should not be considered an admission of original error. Actually, I believe it proves that the hearings given them were fair and unbiased. In addition, and regardless of the Board's recommendation, I personally studied each case, before giving my decision;
- (4) we have not been conducting a witch hunt, either on our own account or through Congressional pressure. My security officials spent months weeding out these few cases from the many others that had been under some suspicion or had been directly accused as security risks. As an example, of one list of 17 persons which was given me by a certain Congressional Committee, a thorough investigation disclosed that only four could be regarded as possible security risks. Of that four, one was reinstated after the hearings before the Board.

I have mentioned these few points for your own information only and because I know of your interest in and fine support of the Central Intelligence Agency during the past. Our troubles in this whole matter were principally brought about because we were forced to accept the FBIS in toto without the usual close security and personnel screening given all candidates for CIA. The clean-up job is now completed and I feel that the CIA as a whole can be proud that we have the finest and most loyal and enthusiastic body of employees in Government. I certainly wish to keep it that way.

Again, I appreciated your thoughtfulness in writing and your broad view of the problem. Please call me when you come to Washington in order that we may have lunch and a talk.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

R. H. MILLENKOETTER  
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.  
Director of Central Intelligence

I&S - SE/ch

cc: Executive Registry  
Director's file ✓  
Exec. for I & S

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

FROM	OFFICE	TO
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	Secretary, NIA	
	Chief of Operational Services	
	Chief, Central Planning Staff	
	Chief, Central Reports Staff	
	Administrative Officer	
X	Wright	
	Major White	✓

\_\_\_\_\_ ACTION \_\_\_\_\_ DIRECT REPLY

\_\_\_\_\_ RECOMMENDATION \_\_\_\_\_ COMMENT

\_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ FILE

\_\_\_\_\_ INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ NOTE

\_\_\_\_\_ RETURN \_\_\_\_\_ MAIL

\_\_\_\_\_ PREPARATION OF REPLY

REMARKS:

I would like Capt Cullen  
to see this before filing in  
Wright



COLONEL WRIGHT

Information. The General has seen this.

*Please return for file.*  
*D. J. [unclear]*