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SECRET

26 May 1950

TO : Mr. Childs

FROM : [redacted]

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SUBJECT: Transfer of the "Intelligence and Investigation Laboratory" to the Central Intelligence Agency

1. Apparently the Intelligence and Investigation Laboratory which has operated in the past under the jurisdiction of the Director of Intelligence of the U. S. Air Force has now been transferred to the CIA.

2. Undoubtedly our strongest justification for assuming such responsibility is to conduct research and development activity in covert fields.

3. It is, therefore, somewhat unfortunate that the undated memorandum from the Acting Director of Intelligence, USAF stresses the justification for our assuming the function as "a central laboratory activity" to be performed for the "benefit or interest of ALL intelligence agencies....." If the reason for our doing this activity is one of central service, we would require a prior determination of this fact by the National Security Council. To my knowledge the file does not indicate that such a decision was ever sought from the NSC.

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