

CONFIDENTIAL

1 August 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Request from the Secretary of the Interior

1. On Friday, 28 July, James Carr, Under Secretary of the Interior, called to ask if we could help them by giving them a report on the present status of the Soviet program for the desalinization of water. He said that they were having difficulty in Congress in obtaining backing for the U. S. program of sufficient magnitude, particularly in the House of Representatives.

2. I called [redacted] in OSI and related this request, asking that the report be available early in the week of 31 July for transmission to Under Secretary Carr.

3. Mr. Carr also advised that they were disturbed by a report from one of their representatives who had recently been in [redacted] at a conference discussing "high dams". The report indicated that [redacted] had now superceded the United States as the foremost expert in the world on high dams. Mr. Carr asked what light we could shed on this as Secretary Udall would like to take the necessary steps to regain U. S. supremacy in this field, including possible reorganization of the Bureau of Reclamation. I passed this information to Dr. Guthe who said that he would look into it.

[redacted]
Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Inspector General

cc: DDCI
DD/P
AD/SI via DD/I
AD/RR via DD/I

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