

ER: 62-494/a

12 FEB 1962

Honorable Orville L. Freeman *copy*
Secretary of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Freeman:

Upon my return to Washington from a brief trip, your memorandum of 23 January concerning current Sino-Soviet agricultural intelligence was brought to my attention.

I am delighted that we have been able to furnish information of value and assistance to you in your important work and I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing. You may be sure you will have the continued cooperation of this Agency and its personnel in support of your requirements.

Sincerely,

John A. McCone
Director

O/DCI/ [] vgd 5 Feb 62

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

62-494

January 23, 1962.

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

To: Honorable John A. McCone, Director
Central Intelligence Agency

From: Orville L. Freeman, Secretary

Subject: Current Sino-Soviet Agricultural Intelligence

ask
[Handwritten signature]

On October 3, 1961, I sent a letter to the Director outlining the needs and interest of the Department of Agriculture for current Sino-Soviet agricultural intelligence, and subsequently Mr. Eugene Olson arranged the implementation with Mr. [redacted] and Agency liaison personnel.

In observing results within the Department over the past three months, I would like to express my personal appreciation for the Agency's excellent cooperation. The Department is not only receiving the daily current intelligence digests and summaries regularly but the content of these and other selected items received demonstrate a specific response to the areas of interest indicated in our original correspondence.

We have brought relevant information to the attention of USDA officials responsible for United States and foreign agricultural trade and aid activities, and I feel sure that a vital contribution has been made to policy decisions in this area.

I am confident that in the forthcoming decade there will be few challenges to United States agricultural leadership greater than that generated by Communist pressures in the food deficit areas of the underdeveloped two-thirds of the world. At any rate, with Mao sponsoring rural-based armed revolution in the Chinese pattern in these areas and Khrushchev advocating Communist-type agrarian reforms, there is little room for complacency in the West. The Department desires, of course, to be fully apprised of this developing situation in order to better plan and implement our own agricultural programs.

Your Agency liaison personnel have been both helpful and efficient. I extend my thanks again to the Agency and to them and assure you of our continued cooperation.

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Growth Through Agricultural Progress