

20 JAN 1961

ER: 61-403/A

Honorable Frank R. Lauter
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Lauter:

Thank you very much for your letter concerning your dinner meeting with the Soviet Ambassador on 9 January 1961. I note with interest your statement that he apparently was trying to create good feeling and learn what he could about the attitude of the incoming administration. This is consistent with reports we have received from other quarters.

Your visit to the Agency last week in company with Senators McGee and Church was certainly pleasant as well as beneficial to those officials of the Agency present. I appreciate the time that you and the other Senators took to make this meeting possible.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

25X1

OGC/LC:JSW:mks (17 Jan 61)

Rewritten: C/DCI/ [redacted] vgd 19 Jan 61

Distribution:

orig & 1 - addressee

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1 - IG

on visits by U. S. Gov officials with
Amb. Menshikov.

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE)

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61-405
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

RICHARD L. CALLAGHAN, STAFF DIRECTOR

January 12, 1961

Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

When we visited with you a few nights ago concerning our African tour I overheard Senator Church say that he would advise you about any visits which he had with Ambassador Menshikov. This seemed like a good idea and, therefore, I wanted to report a dinner meeting which I had with the Ambassador on Monday, January 9, 1961.

My wife and I were invited to the Embassy and had dinner with the Ambassador and his wife and the Embassy Counselor and his wife. There seems to be little to report about the conversation. The Ambassador tried to impress upon me the desirability of disarmament and the futility of continual atomic experimentation and arms increase. He also tried to obtain my estimate of action that the Kennedy Administration would take in the field of disarmament. Although it was mentioned during the evening that we had recently been in Africa, he did not show any particular interest in this and asked no questions about conditions in Africa.

It was my impression that he was simply trying to create good feeling and that he was trying to learn anything he could about the attitude of the incoming Administration.

Very truly yours,



Frank E. Moss
United States Senator

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dulles", is located to the right of the date.

Jack:

Mr. Dulles wants you to get together such information as we have on the Soviet Ambassador's efforts to establish contact with people in the new administration. He mentioned specifically a memorandum from Senator Gore. David Bruce has been designated by the new administration as the focal point on this matter and will be the one to receive the information. Mr. Dulles mentioned this to Mr. Amory and Mr. Sheldon, emphasizing the extremely confidential nature.

WE
20 December