

Executive Registry
62-18711A

11 APR 1962

Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
United States Senate
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Senator Humphrey:

This is in reply to your letter of 20 March 1962 forwarding letters of 23 February 1962 and 22 March 1962 from [redacted] concerning [redacted] offer to participate in the service of the Central Intelligence Agency."

STAT

For your information, representatives of this Agency have been in contact with [redacted] for a little over two years. During that period he has provided several useful information reports.

Regular staff employment by this Agency is not feasible because he is not a citizen of the United States. We have explored the possibility of utilizing his services in a more formal capacity than at present, but are unable to offer him anything at this time. Should a suitable position arise, [redacted] would be given every consideration.

I want to thank you for bringing [redacted] to my personal attention. The positive expression of interest and desire to assist in the conduct of affairs of our country by an individual with [redacted] training and background is most heartening.

STAT

STAT

Sincerely,

(Signed) JOHN A. MCCONE

John A. McCone
Director

- Distribution:
- Orig & 1 - Addressee
 - 1 - DCI
 - 1 - DDCI
 - 1 - IG
 - 1 - ER
 - 1 - FE

1 - OO

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9 Apr 62

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Approved For Release 2003/03/28 : CIA-RDP80B01676R002800250022-3

Approved For Release 2003/03/28 : CIA-RDP80B01676R002800250022-3

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62-18711A

11 APR 1962

Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
United States Senate
Washington 25, D.C.

SA MA 511 C
SA MA 511 C
SI 99A
SI 99A

Dear Senator Humphrey:

This is in reply to your letter of 24 March 1962 forwarding letters of 23 February 1962 and 22 March 1962 from [redacted] concerning [redacted] offer to "participate in the service of the Central Intelligence Agency."

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For your information, representatives of this Agency have been in contact with [redacted] for a little over two years. During that period he has provided several useful information reports.

Regular staff employment by this Agency is not feasible because he is not a citizen of the United States. We have explored the possibility of utilizing his services in a more formal capacity than at present, but are unable to offer him anything at this time. Should a suitable position arise, [redacted] would be given every consideration.

I want to thank you for bringing [redacted] to my personal attention. The positive expression of interest and desire to assist in the conduct of affairs of our country by an individual with [redacted] training and background is most heartening.

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Sincerely,

(Signed) JOHN A. McCONE

John A. McCone
Director

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

- 1 - DCI
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- 1 - IG
- 1 - ER
- 1 - FE [redacted]

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

Long

1 - OO

2 - Leg. Counsel w/basic OGC/LC/JGO:jmd

9 Apr 62

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Approved For Release 2003/03/28 : CIA-RDP80B01676R002800250022-3

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SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	ER 7E12		
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	
Remarks:			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
Legislative Counsel, 7D01			9 Apr 62
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET	

FORM NO. 237 APR 55 Replaces Form 30-4 which may be used.

(40)
U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1955—O—342531

62-18221A

9 APR 1962

Honorable Thomas G. Morris
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Morris:

Thank you very much for bringing to my attention the article from the Christian Science Monitor regarding the use of "ball lightning" as a defensive weapon.

Observations of ball lightning and theoretical explanations for it have been made since the mid-1700s. The recent interest in the subject was instigated by a hypothetical model of the phenomenon first suggested by the Soviet scientist P. L. Kapitza in 1955. Since then, numerous attempts have been made to explain the phenomenon, both by Soviet and Western scientists, but most of these are in the realm of theory and speculation. The first known publication of a weapons application was the publication of a non-technical article by G. I. Babat in a popular Russian magazine, as mentioned in the Monitor article.

Work in the United States has been in progress for some time investigating the possible application of ball lightning as a defensive weapon system. The basic research is being carried out by the Air Force Office of Aerospace Research. In addition to their work, several independent industrial concerns have been carrying out research in this general area. A most lucid and readable account of the Armour Research Foundation work on a device similar to that proposed by Babat can be found in the September 12, 1960 issue of Electronic News.

The use of ball lightning as a weapons system is a subject which appeals to the popular imagination and, consequently, often appears in exaggerated forms in non-technical popular magazines. Frequently it is difficult, even for the technical personnel, to sift the fantasy from technically feasible proposals.

NEGATIVE REGISTRY FILE

The Central Intelligence Agency has been watching developments in this area rather carefully for some time. We do not believe that the Soviets have perfected such a weapon system, nor do we expect them to do so in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, it is not considered possible that a weapon such as this was used to down the U-2 aircraft piloted by Mr. Powers.

While we do not regard the information in this letter as technically classified, we would prefer that in any use you may make of the information it not be attributed to the Agency. Please let us know if there is any other way in which we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

(Signed) JOHN A. McCONE

John A. McCone
Director

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - Adse.

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

✓ 1 - ER

1 - DCI [redacted]

1 - IG

1 - DD/R

1 - OSI [redacted]

1 - Leg. Counsel w/basic

(Draft prepared by OSI [redacted])

OGC/LC:JSW:mks (4 Apr 62)

rewritten O/DCI [redacted]:bt (6 Apr 62)

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Attached is a proposed letter for your signature to Representative Morris. This was prepared in OSI and concurred in by Pete Scoville. Representative Morris had enclosed an article on "fireball lightning" and queried whether or not this could possibly have been a weapons system used to down the Powers U-2.

Recommend signature

JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

4 April 1962
(DATE)

STAT

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: ER		
ROOM NO. 7E12	BUILDING HQS	
REMARKS:		
FROM:		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. **241**
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

GPO : 1957-O-439445

(47)

The Central Intelligence Agency has been watching developments in this area rather carefully for some time. We do not believe that the Soviets have perfected such a weapon system, nor do we expect them to do so in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, it is not considered possible that a weapon such as this was used to down the U-2 aircraft piloted by Mr. Povera.

While we do not regard the information in this letter as technically classified, we would prefer that in any use you may make of the information it not be attributed to the Agency. Please let us know if there is any other way in which we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

(Signed) JOHN A. McCONE
John A. McCone
Director

Distribution:

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- 1 - DDCI
- ✓ 1 - ER
- 1 - DCI [redacted]
- 1 - IG
- 1 - DD/R
- 1 - OSI/[redacted]
- 1 - Leg. Counsel v/basic

(Draft prepared by OSI/[redacted]
OGC/LC:JSWinks (4 Apr 62)
rewritten O/DCI [redacted] bt (6 Apr 62)

STAT 10 01 99A

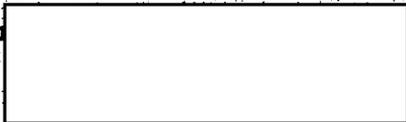
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JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

4 April 1962

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