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7 December 1963

Dear Ted:

Probably I should start this letter by saying that "bureaucracy grinds exceedingly slow but..." In any event, this is in response to your letter of 24 September 1963 to General Carter concerning the declassification of a memorandum which General Donovan submitted to President Roosevelt early in 1941 proposing the establishment of a new global intelligence agency. Mr. Walter Wager had proposed that this be declassified for inclusion in a book which he is writing on OSS. The length of time has been consumed in getting clearances from the several areas. The last was received in a memorandum dated 5 November 1963 from the Secretary of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and states that "no objection is interposed" to the declassification.

Having completed this circle, it would then appear that, since Donovan's memorandum was addressed to President Roosevelt, White House concurrence in declassification is required. A copy of the memorandum concerned is enclosed for your information. You will note that the paper does not bear a security classification as such. However, it is reproduced in the TOP SECRET War Report: Office of Strategic Services (OSS), Vol. I, Washington Organization, pp 259-260. A copy of the memorandum from Secretary, JCS, is also enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Kirk

Lyman B. Kirkpatrick  
Executive Director

Encls

Major General C. V. Clifton *cmd*  
Military Aide to the President  
The White HouseApproved For Release 2003/07/29 : CIA-RDP80B01676R003000120008-0  
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Rewritten: LBK;drm;rm orig - addressee 1 - CFI/INT 1 - ER - LBK