

61-2682

5 APR 1961

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence**

**SUBJECT: Termination Authority - National Security Agency**

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation in paragraph 3 for approval of the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. The National Security Agency has for some time been seeking authority similar to that possessed by you to terminate employees when you deem it necessary or advisable in the interests of the United States. We have agreed that they need this authority to assure control of personnel security. Briefings by me have helped persuade the Department of Defense's General Counsel that the National Security Agency should have this, and it is probable that Mr. Kilday will bring this problem up in the continuance of the [redacted] hearings within a few weeks. We have promised our help and have already briefed [redacted] that we support NSA on this. Admiral Frost has asked if our assistance can go as far as giving testimony before Mr. Kilday's Subcommittee (this is the special subcommittee set up to investigate the [redacted] case, composed of Mr. Kilday, Mr. Hardy, and Mr. Arends).

3. I recommend that Mr. [redacted] and I be authorized to testify on how our authority is exercised before Mr. Kilday's Subcommittee in closed session. This would permit us to describe with some freedom cases we have handled in the past without, of course, giving names or operational information.

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OGC Has Reviewed

The recommendation in paragraph 3 is approved

**SIGNED**

**ALLEN W. DULLES**  
Director

**LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON**  
General Counsel

11 APR 1961

Date

*Lawrence R. Houston*  
*LBR*  
*7 Apr 61*  
*W.C. P.C.*  
*4/11/61*

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