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OGC 61-0311

28 February 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Posture Hearings of Department of the Army Witnesses before House Armed Services Committee

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. The Army has been testifying both yesterday and today in the general posture hearings conducted annually by House Armed Services Committee, chaired by Mr. Vinson. These sessions are executive. Today, General Williems presented the prepared intelligence briefing but time did not permit questions. Therefore, he will go on tomorrow morning at ten o'clock for questioning.
3. Based on the Army presentation and presumably utilizing their view of the NIE on Soviet ICBM Capabilities, I am advised that a number of the members gained the impression that the Soviets in the near future will have a missile gap. Apparently this will be the subject of a number of questions tomorrow.
3. In addition to these matters, apparently some of the members were somewhat disturbed by newspaper accounts today and yesterday concerning Secretary Rusk's position that attacks on Europe should be made with conventional non-nuclear weapons. Presumably there will be considerable questions on this matter.
4. It is planned that the Agency will have an observer present at these hearings tomorrow and for future hearings of this type.

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5. Mr. Smart advised that Chairman Vinson plans to halt posture hearings at the end of this week to permit the legislative subcommittees to hold hearings. Mr. Smart indicated that it is possible Mr. Kilday would want the Director to appear before the CIA Subcommittee some time next week. After the receipt of one week, the posture hearings to the full Committee will then resume. We will be advised further on this.

JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

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