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Mr. Nicholas Kelley, President  
National Civil Service League  
315 Fifth Avenue  
New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Nick:

I am delighted to get the good news that Sherman Kent has been selected to receive one of the ten 1961 Career Service Awards of the National Civil Service League.

Much as I would like to be with you for dinner, I have a previous engagement for dinner with Secretary McNamara on that date and, therefore, will be unable to accept your invitation. However, I understand the League is planning a reception from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. and I thought perhaps that I might join you at that time.

Although I am honored by your invitation for me to become a member of the Washington Sponsorship Committee for the Awards Banquet, I regret that I will be unable to take part in this movement. In view of my present official position, I have followed a firm policy of declining participation in non-governmental committees.

As you can appreciate, we do not take part in publicity and banquet promotion matters but we will, of course, be very glad to furnish you with any additional information on Dr. Kent. Colonel Stanley J. Grogan, one of my assistants, will work with you on this.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

- 1 - Col. Grogan w/cpy basic
- 1 - Alice/June w/cpy basic
- 1 - [Redacted] w/cpy basic
- 1 - ER w/cpy basic VIA R...

Distribution:

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DCI w/...

- 1 - Dr. Kent w/cpy basic
- 1 - [Redacted] w/cpy basic (sent separately)

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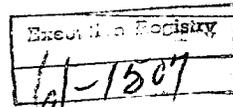
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Dear Mr. Dulles:

It is a great pleasure to inform you that Sherman Kent, Assistant Director for National Estimates of the Central Intelligence Agency, has been selected to receive one of the ten 1961 Career Service Awards of the National Civil Service League.

Mr. Kent was chosen because of his unusual competence, character, and achievements exemplifying the highest principles of public service. We believe that public recognition of such an outstanding career highlights in general the importance of good government in our national life.

The ten Career Service Award winners will be honored at a dinner on March 21 in the Sheraton-Park Hotel in Washington. We sincerely hope you will reserve this date to join us in publicly recognizing Mr. Kent. In fact, we should like to consider you a member of a Washington Sponsorship Committee for the Awards Banquet. May we list you on the program in this capacity? To represent your Agency, will you please designate a representative to work with us in publicity and banquet attendance promotion.

Mr. Kent is being notified that he will receive an award. We shall appreciate your withholding any public announcement of his selection until we have made an official announcement. We shall look forward to seeing you at the dinner.

Sincerely yours,

  
Nicholas Kelley  
President

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