

10-874/a

18 February 1958

Eugene Holman, Esq.
Chairman of the Board
Standard Oil of New Jersey
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York

Dear Gene:

I appreciated your kind letter of 6 February, with the enclosures. I was very much interested in [redacted] comments. I had forgotten the Benjamin Franklin quotation about "Let the mud dry; it is easier to brush off." It is certainly a good motto to remember these days. The part of the world where [redacted] husband is working is in a troubled state these days, and if you receive anything of particular interest from there, I should certainly be glad to get it.

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I trust that the [redacted] business has not been too much of a nuisance to you. It seems to me that he is beginning to run out of steam and certainly I would think that his pieces are boring enough to tire any listener.

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As one of those who had a share in your involvement, I feel a particular debt of gratitude for the stout attitude you have taken. I am confident that all will come out all right in the end.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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10-874

EUGENE HOLMAN
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK

February 6, 1958

My dear Allen:

Attached is some correspondence which I think you will find of interest, particularly the excerpt from the letter from



If you want me to do anything further in connection with the dinner at the University Club a few weeks past, please let me know.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street
Washington, D. C.

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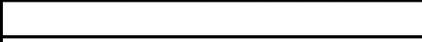


[Handwritten mark]

R. D. LAPHAM
ROOM 886
215 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 5, CAL.
TELEPHONE YUKON 8-6088

January 6, 1958

Dear Gene:

Glad Helen and I had a chance to say Hello to you and Edith at Lewis' small cocktail party. You recall I read you a paragraph from a letter recently received from  whose husband is with 



You asked me to send you copy of that paragraph, so here it is.



 is an interesting and attractive woman and is as well posted on the general situation in the Far East as any woman I know.

Best regards, and all good luck for 1958!

Sincerely,

Roger D. Lapham

Mr. Eugene Holman, Chairman
Standard Oil Company (N. J.)
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York 20, New York

Enclosure

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(C O P Y)

(Excerpt from letter from
dated Hongkong, November 12, 1957)

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"The Little Rock affray had wide and unfair coverage, so much to the point where I ceased to read the papers for days on end, but I have now arrived at the conclusion that no matter what we do or say, it will be misunderstood; whether it be our questionable tardiness in launching a Sputnik or engage in a local segregation disturbance. It is one of those situations where we cannot win. The only answer is to have faith; faith in ourselves and in our leaders and rise above the slings and arrows - let them fly, or as Benjamin Franklin said: let the mud dry, it is easier to brush off. We cannot dissipate our energy or upset our equilibrium trying to justify our actions or please the rest of the world, because it cannot be done. There is too great a chunk that is working overtime with its wits and colossal resources to make us misunderstood. Americans the world around must have confidence, poise, and a real understanding of their worth and of the contribution they and their country are making to the world. These must be exhibited on an individual as well as a national level. As recent as yesterday I was baited on our China policy. I found it quite refreshing to be able to laugh at the person and tell him that maybe he has been subscribing to the wrong reading material. A far cry from 3 years ago in Singapore when it cut to the quick to hear Americans and American policy crucified. Such criticism stems from just 2 sources: jealousy on the part of our allies, and a determination to destroy us by our enemy. One is to be pitied, and the other - for us to be ever vigilant. The sad part is one plays into the other."

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