

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR ADAMS

SUBJECT: Board of Consultants on the Central Intelligence Agency

The President went over with me on 23 November 1955 the question of establishing a Board of Consultants on the Central Intelligence Agency and indicated that he would take this action.

The President indicated that he would like to have the following serve on the Board:

Dr. James R. Killian, Jr.
Lieutenant General James H. Doolittle
General John E. Hull
Admiral Richard L. Conolly (or)
Admiral Leslie Stevens
Mr. Morris Hadley
Mr. David K. E. Bruce

The President said he might also be willing to name Admiral Sidney W. Souers, who I have suggested as a man familiar with the work and also one who would give the Board a bipartisan complexion. His biography is attached.

In addition, the President indicated he would like an industrialist and suggested either Benjamin F. Fairless, Edward L. Ryerson and Robert W. Woodruff as possibilities. All three are eminently qualified, and I would like to recommend Mr. Fairless. Their biographical sketches are appended.

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Attached are the drafts of two letters: one from the President to members of the Board, and one from the President to the Director of Central Intelligence. The President went over these letters and made certain suggestions which I have included. Also attached is a list indicating the names and addresses of the proposed members of the Board. It would seem most desirable to speak with them informally in advance of sending a letter, to determine if they would be willing to accept the appointments.

Signed

Allen W. Dulles
Director

IG/LBKirkpatrick:kp (23 November 1955)

Rewritten: AWD:hea

Distribution: Orig & 1 cc - Addressee

2 - Signing Official

1 - ER -

1 - IG

P. S. I have drafted and sent over to the Attorney General a form of "secrecy" affidavit to be executed by the members of the Board of Consultants. I foresee no possible difficulty in carrying out this important idea of the President's. We always require a very similar declaration from all of our outside consultants.

A. W. D.

NAMES FOR CIA BOARD OF CONSULTANTS

Dr. James R. Killian, President
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
50 Memorial Drive
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts
Phone: KI 7-6900

Lieutenant General James H. Doolittle
c/o Shell Oil Company
50 W 50th Street
New York, New York
Phone: JU 6-5000

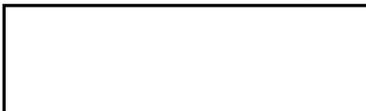
General John E. Hall
c/o Manufacturing Chemists Assn., Inc.
1625 I Street NW
Washington, D. C.
Phone: NA 8-2588

Admiral Leslie C. Stevens (or)



Admiral Richard L. Conolly
Long Island University
385 Flatbush Extended
Brooklyn, New York
Phone: UL 2-9100

Mr. Morris Hadley



Admiral Sidney W. Souers
c/o General American Life Insurance Co.
1501 Locust Street
St. Louis, Missouri

Mr. David K. E. Bruce



AND

Mr. Edward Larned Ryerson (or)



Mr. Robert W. Woodruff



(or)

Mr. Benjamin F. Fairless



D R A F T

Lt. General James H. Doolittle
c/o Shell Oil Company
50 West 50th Street
New York, New York

Dear General Doolittle:

I am establishing a Board of Consultants on the Central Intelligence Agency for the purpose of providing me periodically with independent evaluations of the work of that organization. This Board will consist of seven or eight outstanding citizens in whose high qualifications and discretion I have the fullest confidence. I would like to have you serve as one of the members of this Board.

It is my desire that this Board should meet not less often than once every six months to analyse thoroughly the work of the CIA. These sessions might involve meetings over a period of several days, during which time you would acquaint yourself with the development of the organization. I am particularly anxious to obtain your views as to the general progress the Agency is making, the quality of its training and personnel, its security, progress in research, the effectiveness of its projects and of the handling of its funds and the general competence of the Agency in carrying out its assigned task.

It is my sincere conviction that prompt and accurate intelligence is essential to the policy making branches of the Government in the field of national security and foreign relations. By serving on the Board you can make a real contribution to the task of Government.

It is my hope that you and the others whom I am inviting to serve will be able to meet with me and Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director of Central Intelligence, in the near future, to determine the scope of your review of the work in the foreign intelligence field and to draw up terms of reference to permit you effectively to carry out your assigned task. At that time I shall also wish to consider with you and the other members of the Board the advisability of extending your study to the foreign intelligence work of other branches of the Government.

Faithfully,

D R A F T

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

Dear Mr. Dulles:

In the Hoover Commission Report submitted to Congress on 29 June 1955 relating to the intelligence activities of the Government, there is a recommendation that I appoint a "committee of experienced private citizens who shall have the responsibility to examine and report" on the work of the Government's foreign intelligence activities. I have noted your concurrence.

In accordance with this recommendation I am constituting a Board of Consultants to review periodically the work of the Central Intelligence Agency and to report their findings to me. A copy of the letter which I am sending to the prospective members of the Board is enclosed. In connection with the terms of reference of this Board, mentioned in this letter, I shall consider extending the scope of the Board's work to our other foreign intelligence activities as apparently contemplated in the Hoover Commission recommendation and to the efficacy of present measure to coordinate our intelligence work.

The work of this Board together with the regular reviews conducted by the appropriate Committees of the Congress will help to provide a method for assuring the Congress, the public, and the Executive that this highly important and sensitive work is being efficiently conducted.

I know that you will afford the Board of Consultants the fullest cooperation in its work.

Sincerely yours,

Dwight D. Eisenhower

SIDNEY W. SOUERS

b. Dayton, Ohio, March 30, 1892. Miami A. B. 1912; Pres. Mortgage & Security Co., New Orleans 1920-25, Piggly Wiggly Stores, Memphis 1925-26; V.P. Missouri State Life Ins. Co., St. Louis, 1930-33; V.P. Gen. Am. Life Ins. Co., St. Louis, 1933-41; now Dir. & Chmn. Exec. Comm.

Rear Adm. U.S.N.R., Active Duty 1940-46. Dir. Central Intelligence Group 1946.

Office: 1501 Locust Street
St. Louis, Missouri

BENJAMIN F. FAIRLESS

B. Pigeon Run, Ohio, 1890, home Pittsburgh; Pres. U. S. Steel Corp.

Address:



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EDWARD LARNED RYERSON

b. Chicago, Illinois, 1886; Yale 1908; Grad. Bd. Inland Steel;

Director: Northern Trust Co.; Quaker Oats Co.; Illinois

Bell Telephone Co.; International Harvester Co.; American Brake

Shoe Co.; New York Life Insurance Co.; Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe.

U. S. Army 1918.

ROBERT WINSHIP WOODRUFF

b. Columbus, Georgia, 1889; home Atlanta. Chmn. Exec. Comm.

Coca Cola Co.; Director: Continental Gin Co.; Trust Co. of Georgia;

Guaranty Trust; Southern Railway; General Electric Co., Met. Life

Ins. Co.