

Executive Registry  
11-4279

18 May 1959

*card*  
Mr. Kenneth E. BeLieu  
Staff Director  
Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. BeLieu:

You have referred to my testimony given before the Preparedness Subcommittee on 18 March 1959, and the inquiry made at that time by one of the Senators present with respect to the exact timing of certain briefings with regard to the Soviet ballistic missile program.

The National Security Council acts in a confidential, advisory capacity to the President and I am therefore not authorized, with respect to matters presented to the National Security Council to disclose details concerning the discussions which take place or the timing thereof.

As indicated to the Subcommittee, I would also emphasize that an intelligence briefing of the Security Council is only one of several ways through which intelligence is passed to members of the Council, particularly those concerned with our foreign and defense policies. For example, in addition to individual briefings of Council members, intelligence is passed to them in the daily Central Intelligence Bulletin and in National Estimates. Such intelligence is not usually repeated at the weekly NSC briefings.

Sincerely,

- AWD/ji
- 1 - DCI - for ER
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - James S. Lay, NSC
- 1 - DDI (for Mr. Amory)
- K-
- 1 - Legis. Counsel

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Orig. - Handcarried by Mr. Carey, (Legis. Counsel)  
(Cleared with [redacted] and James Lay)

J [redacted]

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY)