



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Registry
11-9399

Mr. Kenneth Hahn
Supervisor, Second District
501 Hall of Records
Los Angeles 12, California

Dear Mr. Hahn:

We are in receipt of numerous inquiries from members of Congress who have forwarded copies of a form letter which you addressed to Speaker Rayburn and Senator Johnson. Although you have not addressed any communication in this regard to us, you probably would be interested in our comments on this subject.

Khrushchev's comments about intelligence activities and the Central Intelligence Agency, in our mind, represent part of a deliberate campaign to discredit U. S. intelligence and thus leave a clearer field for Communist subversion. If there is a thaw in the Cold War, Khrushchev obviously would like to deprive the United States of one of its principal weapons for combating Communism. You have noted, of course, that in all of his talk about desiring peace, Khrushchev has stated that Moscow has not renounced and will not change its objective that all of the nations of the free world should and shall become Communist.

As far as Khrushchev's specific claims are concerned, I would point out first that one of his motives was to draw out any information that any official reply or action might supply. You recognize, of course, that from time to time agents are exposed and apprehended. This often happens to Soviet agents. These agents sometimes carry both money and ciphers known as one-time pads. These pads are useful solely for communication between that agent and his home base, and do not affect any other communication system. As far as we are concerned, Khrushchev has not got much comfort out of us in this respect; in fact, nothing comparable to what we have gained from Soviet defectors and agents.

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As far as the general communications systems of the U. S. Government are concerned, they are protected between sender and recipient by a variety of means, none of which were made suspect by Khrushchev's remarks. We are constantly calculating the protection given to such communications by the inherent security of the devices used and are constantly alert to interpret and exploit any information which would alter our calculations. Khrushchev's remarks were limited to matters which did not give us any new information of this sort.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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Remarks:

Kirk:
 The Director commented he felt no useful purpose would be served in sending the attached letter to Mr. Hahn -- since it in all probability would only stir him up and in any event he (Hahn) should by now have received the word as to our stand on this matter.

JSE

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