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MEMORANDUM FOR:  C/IO

As I advised you, my brother queried me about one of the signatories of a communication he had received and which impressed him favorably, regarding the American attitude toward the Korean Prisoner repatriation issue. The signatory in question was some such name as Council Against Communism and Aggression. I queried Schiller on this and also asked him about the origin of the letter. Apparently the letter was signed jointly by the AFofL, the CIO, the American Legion, Norman Thomas, and the above named Council. He said that the AFofL's true attitude with regard to the Korean Prisoner issue had been sent Wednesday, 30 September, and signed by Matt Woll. The general policy of the AFofL was against signing petitions jointly with others but in this case Woll had agreed to do it (I gathered rather against Schiller's advice and maybe without consulting Schiller). Schiller told me that the Council Against Communism, etc., was a reputable organization as was Marx Lewis who had signed on their behalf. It had been organized by the Upholsterers Union of the AFofL of which a Mr. Hoffman was President. Also the International Hat Workers of America, another AFofL union, was a member of the Council. He indicated that some religious leaders in Philadelphia were also in it.

I asked Schiller who had written the letter to the State Department and he said he thought that it was a joint product of Christopher Emmet and Dave Martin with some participation by Norman Thomas.

ALLEN W. DULLES  
Director

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