

Senator Harry Flood Byrd, Chairman
Joint Committee on Reduction of
Nonessential Federal Expenditures
217-D Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator Byrd:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 11 Decem-
ber relative to the submission of the strength figures of this
Agency to the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential
Federal Expenditures.

I have discussed this matter with the National Security
Council, which has supervision over this Agency by recent Act
of Congress, and have been instructed by the Council that, for
essential security reasons, the strength of the Central Intel-
ligence Agency should not be furnished for publication.

The publication of our strength would make this data
easily accessible to enemy agents in this country. Such infor-
mation would enable such agents to determine with relative ease
the general program and strength of effort of the intelligence
activities of the United States. I am sure you will agree
that such a contingency would be highly undesirable, to say
the least.

It has been our long-standing policy that no strength
figures will be given out by this Agency for record purposes
except to two specially cleared senior officials in the Bureau
of the Budget who are charged with the handling of our budget
problems. The Bureau of the Budget has consistently maintained
the security of our strength figures under all circumstances.
We have also several times in the past arranged with committees
of Congress to withdraw requests for our strength figures for
record purposes after discussing with them our essential se-
curity requirements. Also, by long-standing verbal agreement,
we have furnished no strength or individual personnel data to
the Civil Service Commission in order to insure that such data
would not be recorded.

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SECURITY NO.

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. X

(1) DECLASSIFIED

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AUTH: NPTC 2

DATE: _____ REVIEWER:

FILE: Congressional Correspondence,
Byrd, Harry

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It was suggested to the representative of your Committee who recently contacted us that the published strength report of Government agencies exclude our figures, such exclusion to be explained by a footnote to the effect that national defense reasons make this necessary.

I have no desire to withhold these figures from you personally, and will be pleased to see you at your convenience and to inform you verbally of our actual and contemplated strength for your information only, and, of course, not for publication.

I am sure you will understand my own and the National Security Council's great concern about the full security of the activities and operations of this Agency. I wish also to assure you of my full cooperation with the needs and desires of your Committee to the utmost extent commensurate with our national defense and security.

The above considerations do not apply to the personnel figures of the National Security Council, however, and these will be forwarded to you on a monthly basis, as you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

R. H. HILLENKOSTER
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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C O P Y

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
Joint Committee on Reduction of
Nonessential Federal Expenditures

Created Pursuant To Sec. 601, Of
The Revenue Act of 1941

RR-7158

December 11, 1947 f

Mr. Walter Pforzheimer
Legislative Liaison Counsel
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E St., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir,

By authority of Title 6, Public Law 250, 77th Congress, the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures has for four years been compiling monthly reports on personnel in the Executive Branch of the Government. The questionnaire forms indicating information required for these reports are enclosed along with instructions for preparation.

The Committee requests that such reports be filed with it, addressed to Room 217 B, Senate Office Building, not later than the 15th of each month.

It will be appreciated if Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Council will comply with this request beginning with the report due on the 15th of December.

In addition all agencies of the government have been requested to file with the committee at the most convenient date each month a signed carbon copy of Civil Service personnel reporting form 3257, which is submitted monthly to the Civil Service Commission.

Cordially yours,

/s/ Harry F. Byrd

H. F. Byrd, Chairman

Enclosures

Document No. 34
Review of this document by CIA has
determined that

- CIA has no objection to declass
- It contains information of CIA interest that must remain classified at TS S U
- Authority: HR 70-2
- It contains nothing of

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