

CONFIDENTIAL

ER 6-0734a

The Honorable John F. Kennedy
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Kennedy:

I have received your memorandum of 29 September 1954, concerning the request by The Beacon Press for your help in verifying the accuracy of the Icardi book.

Although we sympathize with the desire of The Beacon Press to obtain a statement as to Icardi's guilt or innocence and to learn our views as to the accuracy of his book, I am sure you will understand why we are unable to comply with their request. Icardi has not to our knowledge been tried by any U. S. Court in connection with the circumstances surrounding the death of Major Helohan and if we, as an Agency, were to express any opinion concerning his guilt or innocence, we would be in an indefensible position. As to the accuracy of his book, again unfortunately we can make no statement. Were we to do so, we would have to make similar statements whenever asked concerning the large number of books now being published which deal with wartime OSS experiences. Such statements would be interpreted by the public as endorsements of all material in the books, and again our position would be indefensible.

I regret that we are unable to be of assistance to The Beacon Press. I am returning their letter to you and the jacket of the book.

Sincerely yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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Enclosures

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Enclosure

OGC/JSW:mm

2 - addressee

2 - Director's office ✓

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United States Senate
Washington, D. C., September 29, 1954

Respectfully referred to

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

Enclosed is a letter which I have received from Jeannette Hopkins, the Beacon Press, relative to the manuscript written by Aldo Icardi, which is self-explanatory.

I would appreciate it very much indeed if you would look into this matter for me and if at all possible act favorably on Miss Hopkins' request.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Kindly return the attachment with your reply in duplicate.

O
P
Y
25 Beacon Street

THE BEACON PRESS

Boston 8, Massachusetts

Senator John Kennedy
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Kennedy:

We should like to call upon your office for help in a confidential matter involving a manuscript that has come to our attention recently, if you feel that you would be free to inquire into the situation for us. The manuscript which has been privately printed and which we are requested to republish and distribute through the Beacon Press has been written by Aldo Icardi, who has been accused of master-minding the murder of Major Holohan during O.S.S. maneuvers in Northern Italy in the last war.

The book is his self-defense. In it he charges that he has been unjustly accused and his reputation ruined. We are enclosing the jacket of the present book so you may form a general impression of the book's contents.

If the facts prove his contention, this might be a "cause celebre". Would it be possible for your office to make inquiries with Mr. Dulles' office at the C.I.A. to determine whether the government is really convinced of Icardi's guilt and ask whether the book could be read in the C.I.A. office for accuracy. The Beacon Press does not wish to lend its name to a volume of this nature unless there is a genuine case of injustice here. At present we have the word of the author alone.

We would appreciate any help you feel able to give.

Yours sincerely,

/s/

Jeannette Hopkins