

Executive Registry
3-3088

3 October 1952

Mr. James H. McWilliams ✓

[Redacted]

STAT

Dear Mr. McWilliams:

General Smith has asked me to reply to your letter of 29 September which passed on the information of your receipt of Chinese Communist propaganda from a Prague address.

You are quite correct in assuming that we have seen this sort of material before and you will perhaps be relieved to know that this propaganda mill has singled out a number of prominent and respectable individuals like yourself to be recipients of their printed matter.

Most of the material of this type is of a particularly transparent character and is certainly without effect at the levels to which, in our observation, it has so far been directed.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Sincerely,

(Signed) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Assistant to the Director

REL:aml

Distr: Orig - addressee

1 - signer

2 - O/DCI) reading

) official w/basic ✓

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JAMES HALL Mc WILLIAMS

STAT

September 29, 1952.

To: General Walter Bedell Smith
Chief of Central Intelligence.

Subject: Receipt of Chinese-communist propaganda

1. In this morning's mail I received from Prague a booklet entitled:
"Shall Brothers Be...."

It comprises a series of compositions allegedly written by American and British prisoners of war and purports to be accounts of their humane and good treatment in P.O.W. camps in Korea.

On its cover the booklet states:- "Published by the Chinese People's Committee for World Peace and Against American Agression."

2. A folded mimeographed slip inside the booklet carries the request:
"Please kindly acknowledge receipt of this booklet by writing to the address below. Additional copies may be requested.

Post Box 76
Praha 19, Czechoslovakia."

3. On the mailing wrapper is pasted a slip bearing very accurately my typewritten name and address with even the postal zone number. Stamped on the mailing wrapper, presumably indicating the Chinese sender is: " Y. Lee
Ne Merně 5
Prague XIX "

4. My impression is that the printed accounts can be harmfully deceptive to persons lacking in discernment and some knowledge of China. The quality of paper, poor by our standards but good by Chinese, leads me to believe that the booklet was made up in China although mailed from Czechoslovakia.

5. Perhaps you have already acquired copies of the subject booklet. There is a curious and perhaps tell-tale error in the Chapter entitled, " How We Spent Christmas ". The context and language portray the pseudo author, "Cpl (sic) Hansen ", as a G.I. and not a Tommy. At the top of page 31 the composer is either conveying the absurd idea that an ordinary soldier "read mass" at the Catholic Christmas Service or he did not know enough to do what a G.I. of any or no Faith would have done -- furnished one of the three titles, Chaplain, Padre, or Father. This mistake is more particularly demonstrated in the succeeding sentence which describes the conductor of the Protestant Service as.. "A Baptist minister." The abbreviation, "Cpl" instead of "Cpl" could be a typographical one but it is typically Chinese.

6. It is approved for release 2003/07/30 by CIA-RDP80R01731R003100090013-9

JAMES HALL Mc WILLIAMS

propagandists for the Communists. I assume that I am included on mailing list as a result of my four visits to China commencing upon my graduation from Annapolis in 1921 when I joined the Asiatic Fleet serving on the Flagship "Huron" and later as

7. Perhaps my report to you of my receipt of enemy propaganda is of trifling significance. But I am mindful that in intelligence work bits of seemingly valueless information rounds out a more satisfying solution. If your predecessor and my onetime classmate, Roscoe Hillenkoetter, were the addressee I would have been less detailed and formal -- which is another way of excusing what you may regard as my verbosity.

Very Sincerely yours,

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From:

James H. McWilliams



STOP FOR
A BLIND MAN



General Walter Bedell Smith
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington D. C.