Approved For Release 2006/12/15 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002800080054-5

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington D.C. 20505

Executive Registry
78-3562/A

7 December 1978

Mr. Jeremy J. Stone
Director
Federation of American Scientists
307 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Stone:

In response to your letter of November 22nd, I would like to confirm my full support for Mr. Hetu's response of 20 November to your letter of the 9th. Your letter of the 9th makes the unsupported allegation that "...since the information could only come from intelligence channels, it presumably was leaked by some member of the U.S. Intelligence Community which you chair." On its face, it is absurd to conclude that the information which originates within the government of Cuba could only come from U.S. intelligence sources. I simply cannot find the logic for that extension. I presume Newsweek has its own sources in Cuba, Spain and elsewhere--as well, unfortunately, as possibly within the U.S. Intelligence Community.

In your letter of the 22nd, you twice refer to a "reliable source" as indicating and confirming that this information did come from the U.S. Government. In one case, however, it appears that you are relying on the fact that the "...author is a reporter whose beat is the U.S. Government." If that is your definition of "reliable," I find it a less than satisfying explanation. In view of the fact that you have not identified to me either of your two reliable sources, I find it difficult to either pursue any investigation or to put much credence in your assumption that this information came from the Intelligence Community.

Regardless of how unfounded I happen to think your allegations are, let me assure you that I am always anxious to determine if any members of our Intelligence Community are leaking classified information. With respect to the Newsweek item, I have simply been unable to find any possible connection between it and any member of the Intelligence Community. You must recognize that there are not many clues in that article upon which to jump and neither of your letters have added to my evidentiary base in any meaningful way.

Beyond that, I do assure you totally that there is no official sanction from the U.S. Intelligence Community for the dissemination of any such information.

MORI/CDF

Approved For Release 2006/12/15 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002800080054-5

Approved For Release 2006/12/15 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002800080054-5

I am truly sorry that you look with such suspicion and jump to such broad and unsubstantiated conclusions about the malevolence of the United States Intelligence Community. I assure you that we are not in the business of trying to subvert the regulations that the President has issued and which specifically forbid any of us in the Intelligence Community to plan or participate directly or indirectly in assassination attempts.

Yours sincerely,

STANSFIELD TURNER

Approved For Release 2006/12/15 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002800080054-5