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Executive Registry  
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30 November 1959

Dear Allen,

This morning a retired Foreign Service Officer came into my office [REDACTED] with what appears to me to be a constructive suggestion relative to the President's current trip. His suggestion, which I pass on to you, is:

"...if the President is not already planning to do so during his visit to Premier Nehru, serious consideration be given to offer India, as a token of abiding United States interest in Asian cultures and religions, as a tribute to a great Asian religious leader and patriot, and as a symbol of our hope for the eventual freedom of the courageous Tibetan people, a suitable collection in microfilm of items in Sanskrit-Tibetan-Mongolian from the magnificent Library of Congress Asian Collection to be known as the 'DALAI LAMA LIBRARY'. Believe it might be appropriate to house such a Library in a Joint United States-Indian 'Institute for Asian Cultural and Religious Studies', and that it might be feasible to finance this project from U. S. PL-480 funds in India plus possibly some funds to cover US fellowships in Asian cultural and religious studies.

I further suggest, that should this approach prove acceptable to US and Indian Governments and to Dalai Lama, this might pave the way for a later approach to Chairman Khrushchev, seeking to make possible a similar microfilm cultural exchange with Outer Mongolia, i.e., we would offer similar microfilm library to Outer Mongolia on understanding qualified US Mongolian scholars be admitted to microfilm suitable historical, literary and cultural materials at Ulan Bator (and possibly elsewhere in Outer Mongolia). The objective would be to reppen door to US scholarly research in Outer Mongolia, closed since the days of Dr. Roy C. Andrews."

With best personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

Mr. Allen W. Dulles  
Washington, D.C.

Approved for Release  
Date OCT 1999

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