

EXCERPT FROM HEARINGS OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947, (S. 758), ON TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1947:

SENATOR TIDINGS: Admiral, I do not want to revert to another subject, and maybe you would prefer to bring it up in the regular course. But looking at this proposed chart of the way that the unification will be carried out under the bill, when you get down to the Central Intelligence Agency, which certainly is one of the most important of all the functions set forth in the bill. I notice that it reports directly to the President and does not seem to have any line running to the War Department, or the Navy Department, or to the Secretary for Air. And I was wondering if that rather excluded position, you might say, was a wholesome thing.

It seems to me that Central Intelligence Agency ought to have more direct contact with the Army and the Navy and the Air Force, and as I see it on the chart here, it is pretty well set aside and goes only to the President. What is the reason for that?

ADMIRAL SHERMAN: Well, sir, this diagram shows the primary control of the Central Intelligence Agency through the National Security Council which, of course, is responsible to the President. But, of course, the Central Intelligence Agency, by its detailed directive, takes information in from the military services and also supplies them with information.

In other words, it is a staff agency and controlled through the National Security Council, which is supported by the military services, and in turn, supports them.

SENATOR TIDINGS: It seems to me that of course they would diffuse such information as a matter of orderly procedure to the Army, Navy and Air Force, as they collected the information and as they deemed it pertinent. But I would feel a little more secure about it if there were a line running from that agency to the War Department, the Navy Department, and the Air Force, rather than have it go up through the President and back again. Because the President is a rather busy man, and while he has control over it, one of its functions, it seems to me, ought to be to have a closer tie-in with the three services than the chart indicates.

ADMIRAL SHERMAN: Well, sir, that is the trouble with the diagram. Actually, the Security Council, placed directly under it, has members of the three departments, the Secretary of National Defense, the Central Intelligence Agency, who collaborates very closely with Military and Naval intelligence, and there are a good many other cross-relationships.

ADMIRAL SHERMAN: The intent of this language was merely to transfer the duties of the existing intelligence agency to the Security Council, and, next, to move the functions of the intelligence group as it is now constituted, by a letter directive of the President, over to the authority.

I would suggest that it might be beneficial to take the existing letter directive under which the Central Intelligence Agency is functioning now, and insert it in the record. Because that letter will clarify this whole matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: At the time the Committee hears General Vandenberg, I am sure the General will bring with him that letter and we will have that in at the start of those hearings.

Chief, ICAPS.

10 March 1947.

Chief, Legislative Liaison Division.

CIG Enabling Act.

1. Attached herewith is a draft of proposed CIG enabling legislation for transmission informally to Mr. Eddy.

2. When a more polished draft is completed, it will be made available to them.

3. This is in rough form, and refers to the "Council," which is the National Security Council, established by the proposed Army-Navy Merger Bill. The Merger Bill provides the transfer of NIA functions to this new Council. However, an attempt is now being made to modify this, which accounts for the difference in Section 3(a) of the enclosed draft.

WALTER L. PFORZHEIMER.

WLPforzheimer:mec
CC: Central Records, (2)
Stayback.