

JUN 15 1955

The Honorable John Stennis
Chairman, Subcommittee on Real
Estate and Military Construction
Senate Armed Services Committee
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

At the Hearing before your Subcommittee on 7 June 1955 to consider the authorization of a new headquarters building for the Central Intelligence Agency (Title IV of S. 1765) there was some discussion as to the proposed location of this new construction in view of the over-all Government dispersal policy. As I explained at that time, we had carefully considered this matter and because our work entails such constant and immediate personal consultation with other Government agencies, particularly the White House, the National Security Council, the Department of State, and the Department of Defense, and because for security reasons a great deal of our business cannot be conducted by telephone, we had concluded that our effectiveness would be seriously reduced if we were located at a considerable distance from these agencies. Accordingly, on 16 November 1954 we requested an exception to current dispersal standards from the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization who, on 21 December 1954, concurred in our request. I introduced copies of this correspondence in the record before your Subcommittee. However, in view of the interest expressed by your Subcommittee, as well as by members of the House Armed Services Committee before whom we also testified, I reviewed this matter on 14 June 1955 with Dr. Fleming, Director, ODM, a representative of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, and others. As a result of this review we have reaffirmed the necessity to locate our headquarters in close proximity to the District of Columbia. At the same time, these officials recognized that this exception in our behalf should not in any way be considered as a precedent for other Government agencies. The Administration supports this position.

As one of the possible locations for our building we desire to consider

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the Government-owned land at the Research Station of the Bureau of Public Roads at Langley in Fairfax County, Virginia. This site, however, is not feasible without the extension of the George Washington Parkway from its present terminus near Spout Run to the Bureau of Public Roads property. Although this extension is definitely planned for the future, I am informed that the Department of the Interior does not have funds in its budget for Fiscal Year 1956 with which to undertake this construction, the estimated cost of which is \$8,500,000. The Bureau of the Budget, has, therefore, authorized us to submit for your consideration a revision of Title IV of S. 1765 which would provide for this Parkway extension if the Langley site should be finally selected. If the Langley site is selected it would not be necessary for us to spend any part of the \$6,000,000 requested for the acquisition of land since the installation would then be located on land already owned by the Government. Alternatively, if Langley is not selected we would necessarily use funds authorized for the acquisition of land which would automatically cancel the authority for funds to extend the George Washington Parkway.

A copy of our proposed revision of Title IV of S. 1765 is attached herewith and a copy of it was handed to Mr. Darden yesterday.

I would greatly appreciate your favorable consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Allen W. Dulles
Director

DD/S:LKW:laq
Distribution:

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CONCUR:

/s/

L. K. WHITE
Deputy Director
(Support)

/s/

Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel