

SLIP

DATE

6 Feb. 1962

TO:

MEMO FOR THE RECORD

ROOM NO.

BUILDING

REMARKS:

Re Hanson Baldwin's request as to whether CIA approves of a meeting in Warsaw between certain Americans and certain Poles under the auspices of the Ford Foundation, the Director thinks the idea is a good one, but we will withhold any statement to Baldwin until we receive the White House position.

SJG/ak

FROM:

ROOM NO.

BUILDING

EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241  
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8

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1 February 1962

*(mailed 6 Feb 62)*  
*ajc*

Mr. Pierre Salinger  
Press Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Pierre:

Regarding our telecon of today; Hanson Baldwin of the **NEW YORK TIMES**, telephoned to me to ask guidance as to how the U.S. Government feels regarding a proposed meeting in Warsaw of a small group of American citizens with a group of Polish representatives, the meeting to be held under the auspices of the Ford Foundation and to be completely off the record, a free for all discussion, behind closed doors, without any public report being made of the substance of the discussion.

Baldwin also asked whether or not the CIA would have any objections to his attendance or the attendance of other Americans at this proposed meeting.

Shepherd Stone of the Ford Foundation (formerly a reporter with the **NEW YORK TIMES**) asked Baldwin if he would be a member of an American group to meet in Warsaw in April or May of 1962 for such a discussion. The discussions would last three or four days. After the Warsaw meeting, according to Baldwin's report, there would be a tour of the western border of Poland with another brief meeting, which would give the American participants 8 to 10 days in Poland. Stone stated that he had in mind inviting the following people:

Elliott V. Bell, the publishing executive  
Vishinsky (?), a Professor at Columbia University  
Bill Griffiths, of MIT  
George Kistiakovsky  
James A. Perkins, of the Carnegie Foundation  
One member of the U.S. Senate (Probably Hubert Humphrey)  
One member of the U.S. House of Representatives

Baldwin said there have been two of these talks previously with the Russians and one previously with the Poles. He said that Robert Bowie, formerly of the State Department, attended the last meeting of this type.

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The NEW YORK TIMES does not know of this invitation to Mr. Baldwin and he is not sure that the TIMES would care to get involved by having a representative at such a meeting, even if the U.S. Government had no objections.

The object of the meeting is to improve communications between the Poles and the U.S. by informal discussions which have no official Governmental connotations, at least on the U.S. side.

Will you let me know informally so that I can advise the Director what the opinion of the White House is on American attendance at such a meeting?

Sincerely,

Stanley J. Grogan  
Assistant to the Director