

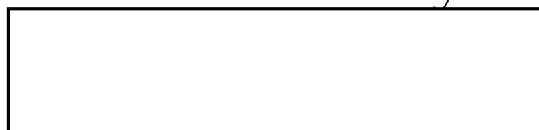


CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

STAT
Mr. Herbert Hoover, Jr. /



Dear Herb:

The East German letter forged over your name is undoubtedly annoying but it seems not to have achieved its purpose. It was published in Neues Deutschland on 22 January 1958 and picked up that same day by the East German Radio both on its Home Service and on its Deutschlandsender targeted at West Germany. As far as we can ascertain, it got little or no replay in West Germany or in France, and the East Germans did not pursue it very vigorously. I think it would merely dignify their knavish tricks to issue further denials or launch a campaign of refutation. My advice is to let the matter lie, and I believe Terry Duce would agree. Copy of this note goes to him.

I am looking forward to seeing you at Foster's birthday party.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Mr. James Terry Duce

DD/P 3-7773

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Mr. Herbert Hoover, Jr.

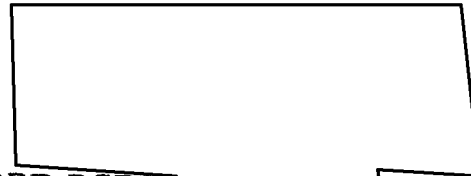


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Allen W. Dulles
Director

DDP:DCPP:
19 February 1958

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Distribution:

Original - Mr. Hoover

1 - DDP

1 - DCPP

1/2 - ER

cc: Mr. James Terry Duce

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STATINTL

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- FF 11 -

EAST GERMANY
Jan. 23, 1958

In other words, he calls for the production of newly designed tanks, guns, aircraft, and rockets. This means that the already highly varied assortment of different types of the same weapons in the NATO stores will be considerably augmented.

Take the example of tank development. It is common knowledge that the United States, which, incidentally, has on her territory the same geographical conditions as Western Europe, is pushing ahead at full speed with the development of her "M" series of tanks. Some time ago, the most common types M-47 and M-48A were also introduced in the federal army. The Italian and French armies are also trained in the use of these tanks. In addition, all three armies have units equipped with the British Centurion tank. France, Italy, and Belgium, moreover, have tanks of their own manufacture.

At the Bonn conference Strauss called for an additional tank which should be as light as possible and fitted with a heavy gun. Such a request is not new. During the last war, Hitler, aghast at the successes of the Soviet tanks, gave an order couched in almost identical terms for the designing of such a tank. Similarly, the Americans have spared no effort to arrive at this ideal design. Hitler's designers saw no other way out than to copy in their "tiger" and "king tiger" elements of the Soviet T-34. The United States has done the same, and its M-48 resembles the Soviet tank even in outward appearance. Yet, all the above-mentioned types have a materially greater ground pressure per square centimeter of track than the T-34; this makes them slower and less maneuverable.

The large number of tank models in use in the NATO armies, moreover, causes great difficulties in the training of soldiers and officers. The differences in speed, ground pressure, range of guns, engine performance, range, and weight make the tactical and strategic handling of concentrated tank formations almost impossible.

In the socialist states things have developed differently. All new designs are based on the proven models T-34, and (UF-2?). The tank units are equipped with vehicles whose individual parts are standardized down to the last detail and which are considerably superior to the old, well-known models.

HOOVER SHOWS U.S. IMPERIALIST METHODS

Berlin, East German Home Service, Jan. 22, 1958, 1200 GMT--L

(Text) Interesting details of the activities of the U.S. monopolies in Algeria were revealed today by NEUES DEUTSCHLAND which publishes the text of a letter written by former U.S. Under Secretary of State Herbert Hoover, Jr.

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- FF 12 -

EAST GERMANY
Jan. 23, 1958

Hoover now is unofficial adviser on oil policy and the Middle East to the big U.S. capitalist, Curtiss, who is a friend of Hoover and for a time stayed in (the latter's house?). The letter is dated Oct. 18, 1957.

After introductory personal remarks Hoover has this to say:

"I need not tell you anything about the importance of African oil. We talked a great deal about it when I was still in the State Department. I might add that our interest is even greater now that the situation in the Middle East is confused owing to the Russian intrigues.

"Now, about your misgivings over the political side of this matter and especially the attitude of the French to the whole idea. I must say that they have been much more conciliatory about our participation in exploiting the Sahara oil than we expected. Since the incident last autumn, when they got hold of a couple of documents compromising Aramco, the people in Paris have been rather more selective in choosing partners, but the Sahara has not been closed to us. That is only natural. One cannot spend billions on the war in Algeria and have enough money left to open up Africa.

"Sinclair and Newton mining are already operating there as partners of three French firms. That is only a start. We gave our consent because we felt sure that it was only a start."

Hoover goes on: "You have some basis for your fear that the French, impressed by the imposing technical progress of the Russians, might try to regulate their relations with the East at the expense of Atlantic unity in an endeavor to free themselves of the German nightmare and to salvage their affairs in North Africa. The State Department entertains similar apprehensions. When I saw Foster last, he said with his usual abruptness that such developments might have an unfavorable effect on U.S. policy in Europe.

"The new Ambassador in Paris also reports that he has serious reasons to feel apprehensive about a tendency in certain French circles which want to pursue an independent line. Further information received from our friends in Paris confirms the apprehensions of our Ambassador and arouses considerable disquiet here. Perhaps the Quai d'Orsay has smelled a rat and heard of our recent negotiations with the Chancellor.

"Dillon, our former Ambassador in Paris, is right of course. He once said to me that North Africa gave France wings. If these wings are not clipped, the Gallic cock will always try to get loose. These may be harsh words, but they express pretty accurately the nature of our diplomacy.

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- FF 13 -

EAST GERMANY
Jan. 23, 1958

"I can also report to you that Foster is fairly busy these days. Macmillan is expected in Washington. You will understand, of course, that I am not in a position to write to you about all the details, but you will soon hear of a big plan for the reorganization of NATO which will certainly dispel your misgivings. I can also assure you that during the coming talks between Eisenhower and Macmillan the possibility of joint action in North Africa will be discussed in detail. From this you may conclude that our vigorous policy in these regions (few words indistinct).

"It is perfectly possible that at this phase of drafting our policy we shall give some attention to the political aspects of the problem in addition to the main purpose of your work. Don't spend any sleepless nights, because the (problem?) is complicated. If you agree to my proposal, you can be sure that we shall be dealing with people you can trust. They are fundamentally different from the type of Middle East nationalist you know so well. But I need not go into details. You can obtain comprehensive information on the spot from Cavendish Cannon--present U. S. Ambassador in Morocco--who enjoys a high reputation and trust among the high-ups down there. One can practice there the method which you used so successfully with the help of your (generals?) against the Surencé engineering company. I personally believe that in Cannon we shall find a man with whom it is easy to work."

The letter says in conclusion: "That is about all I wanted to inform you about in order to explain to you, within certain limits, my proposal and to answer your questions. The success of your assignment will enable us to collect some (trumps?) for the diplomatic game which we shall all have to play in the very near future. (I trust?) (few words indistinct) with your usual vigor and energy."

Further Comment

Berlin, Deutschlandsender, in German to East and West Germany, Jan. 22, 1958
1500 GMT--L

(Helga /Kubitschek/? talk--read by announcer)

(Text) (Editor's Note:--After an introductory summary of Hoover's letter, as quoted in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND today, the talk continues:) What matters to the United States is that the bloodshed in North Africa should be prolonged by supporting the Algerian freedom fighters and that the loss on both sides should be magnified. The economic situation in France is becoming increasingly critical because of the Algerian war. With its money the United States is trying to take over France's political and economic spheres of influence. That the Sahara oil is receiving top priority is only natural in view of the strategic and economic importance of oil.

- FF 14 -

EAST GERMANY
Jan. 23, 1958

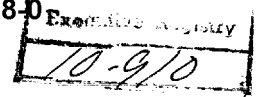
That is the situation today as regards oil. The colonial countries are no longer prepared to be exploited by one capitalist power at one time and another capitalist power another time. Many peoples have already thrown off the colonial yolk. Many are still fighting for their freedom, for the right of ownership over land and soil.

The Algerian people are among them. Some time ago freedom fighters declared that the Algerian people claimed the right to their treasures in the Sahara and that they would resolutely resist the exploitation of the Sahara oil by capitalist invaders. Several operations in this direction showed France that this threat must be taken seriously. The United States will come to feel the reality of this situation if it does not desist from its policy of suppressing other states. The oil in the Sahara belongs to the Algerian people, and the Algerian people will know how to defend it.

For France, as for the United States, there is only one way to share in the treasures of this desert: recognition of the sovereignty of Algeria and peaceful trade relations based equality of rights, as well as treaties based on equality for the utilization of the treasures of the Sahara.

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RADIO DELEGATE IN CAIRO--Professor Ley, chairman of the GDR state radio committee, has arrived in Cairo on a two-week visit for the purpose of further developing cooperation between the radio institutions of both countries. (Berlin, ADN, Jan. 16, 1958, 1245 GMT--L)



HERBERT HOOVER, JR.



SUITE 620

STAT

February 7, 1958

Mr. Allen Dulles
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington , D. C.

Dear Allen:

Attached hereto is a copy of a letter that was forged over my name, and which has apparently received wide publication in the Communist radio and press. I was not aware of its implications until I received a copy from Terry Duce today.

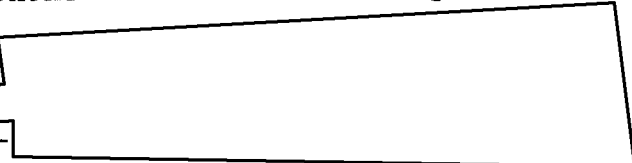
Also attached you will find my reply to Terry, which is self-explanatory. You are, of course, free to discuss it with him and I would like your joint advice on further action - if any.

Should we start a campaign in the European Press and dare them to produce the original?

STATOTHR

You can reach me by telephone at one of the following numbers:

Residence -
Office -
Weekends -



We are looking forward with much anticipation to your birthday party for Foster on the 25th.

Sincerely,

Herbert Hoover, Jr.

CC: Mr. James Terry Duce

HOOVER SHOWS U.S. IMPERIALIST METHODS

Berlin, East German Home Service, Jan. 22, 1958 (Text)

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After introductory personal remarks Hoover has this to say:

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* * * * *

February 7, 1958

Mr. James Terry Duce
Arabian American Oil Company
Shoreham Building
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Terry:

I have your note of yesterday about the letter that I purportedly wrote to "Curtiss".

While in Washington, last week, one of the Associated Press men told me about it, but only in very general terms. I advised him - and Lincoln White at the State Department - that it was a total and complete fabrication. I understand that a brief denial went out over the press wires at that time.

Your letter, enclosing a copy of the document, is the first time I have had a chance to see it. Up to now I have had no idea what it was all about.

It is, of course, a total fabrication from start to finish. No such letter was ever written by me, it does not reflect my sentiments or knowledge to the slightest degree, and I have never heard of the "capitalist Curtiss".

It was apparently fabricated by someone who had heard of my old firm of "Hoover, Curtice and Ruby". The mis-spelling of "Curtice" is itself a complete exposure of the forgery.

While Duke Curtice is an old friend of mine since college days, I do not happen to have had any correspondence with him since before I left the Department of State over a year ago. As you know, Duke has resided in Caracas, Venezuela, for many years.

I do not know if the agencies in Washington will wish to carry the matter further or not. If they do, they will have my complete cooperation.

- 2 -

James Terry Duce

February 7, 1958

A copy of this goes forward to Allen Dulles and you are, of course, free to discuss it with him. I would appreciate your views on further action.

With all best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Herbert Hoover, Jr.

CC - Mr. Allen Dulles

Next 5 Page(s) In Document Exempt