

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS
ARE ATTACHED:
(Please do not remove)

ER 0533X 86

OCA 0553 86

SUBJECT:

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Hamilton Letter on Allegations of CIA Harassment of U.S. church and legal aid groups.

FROM:

David D. Gries
Director, Office of Congressional
Affairs

EXTENSION

NO.

OCA/86-0553

DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

DDO

2.

3.

EXDIR

4.

5.

DDCI

6.

7.

DCI

8.

9.

Return to D/OCA

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

To 5 and 7:

Per our recent discussion, I have prepared the attached response to Hamilton along the lines you suggested.

This letter has been coordinated with the DDO.

David D. Gries

DCI
EXEC
REG

B-406 JK

DCI
EXEC
REG

ER

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

28 FEB 1986

OCA/86-0553

The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton
Chairman
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have your letter of 7 February 1986, that seeks my response "in writing" to concerns expressed to you by some unidentified individuals that the Central Intelligence Agency may be involved in harassment of certain U.S. church and legal aid groups assisting Central American immigrants.

Frankly, Mr. Chairman, I am deeply disappointed and personally offended at being asked to dignify such patently spurious concerns with a written response. As your letter acknowledges, Agency officials have repeatedly and categorically assured your staff that we have not done, and would never do, any such thing. I am mystified and saddened that these assurances were apparently not enough for you, particularly when taken together with your own close familiarity over the years with our people and our activities.

In any event, since it is evidently the only way that you feel this matter can be put finally to rest, let me state as clearly and explicitly as I can that this Agency has not engaged in the kinds of activities you have outlined, nor would we support or condone in any way, shape or form any activities that violate the constitutional or other legal protections afforded any United States citizens and organizations.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ROUTING SLIP

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI				
6	DDA				
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OLL	X			
14	D/PAO		X		
15	D/PERS				
16	VC/NIC				
17	C/LA/DO		X		
18			X		
19	<i>DEK</i>				
20					
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		18 Feb 86 <small>Date</small>			

Remarks

To #13: Please prepare appropriate response.

Executive Secretary

10 Feb 86

Date

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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Executive Registry 6
86- 0533X

February 7, 1986

Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

Recent newspaper articles have carried stories about churches and legal aid groups which are assisting Central American immigrants being the targets of break-ins.

A number of people have contacted me about the possibility that the CIA is engaged in harassing those church groups.

The staff of the Committee has been assured by the CIA's Office of Congressional Affairs that such concerns are totally unfounded.

I would appreciate receiving in writing your response to such concerns.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Lee H. Hamilton
Lee H. Hamilton
Chairman



B. 406-1R