

Items to be Discussed with Senator Richard B. Russell

For assistance in your discussion with Senator Russell, I have attempted to list in summary form the various points which should be discussed. These are not necessarily listed in the order of priority.

1. The request by Mr. Cannon that the Appropriations Subcommittee be briefed on a continuing basis as a specific example of the briefing problem generally. You will recall that Mr. Cannon's request has not been answered and various methods have been considered. It was generally agreed that it would probably be undesirable to circulate the weekly bulletin or other types of intelligence reports. However, it was suggested that you could make an initial presentation at the early part of the session concerning world affairs and offer to provide periodic briefings at the pleasure of the Subcommittee. It was also suggested that Mr. Cannon designate someone on the staff who could be briefed periodically as the Agency saw fit or as otherwise determined to be appropriate.
2. Discussions with other Senate leaders. You will also wish to discuss with Senator Russell the desirability of a joint meeting to include Senators Russell, Johnson, Bridges, Hayden, Saltonstall and possibly Dirksen to discuss the forthcoming session and the requests of the various committees for briefings. You may also wish to raise the possibility of measures being introduced in the Senate for a "Watch Dog" Committee.
3. The matter of a substantive briefing of the Senate CIA Subcommittee of Armed Services which was the subject of a letter to Senator Russell including the possibility of a joint meeting for this purpose with the Subcommittees of Armed Services and Appropriations. It is believed appropriate that you might mention to Senator Russell that you are desirous of briefing the Subcommittee on Agency operations, activities and accomplishments and that in this connection we would propose that the Subcommittee allow us sufficient time shortly after the beginning of Congress to put on our prepared presentation on this subject. Somewhat related to the above is the question of what actions should be taken by the Armed Services Subcommittee. The first point would be the question of a formal announcement of the appointment of the CIA Subcommittees. Secondly, I believe it appropriate to ask Senator Russell to consider the question of official noting by the Subcommittee of the fact of appearances by CIA.