

DRAFT

Honorable J. W. Fulbright
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am happy to respond to your request for comments on S. 414, a bill to create a Freedom Commission and a Freedom Academy.

There can be little doubt that the United States must constantly seek, in all practical ways, to improve and accelerate its efforts to deal with the massive and varied challenges of international Communism throughout the free and uncommitted areas of the world. One of the basic issues is whether establishment of the proposed new instrumentalities for research and training would enhance our national effort in strengthening U.S. capabilities in countering Communist tactics.

Much is already being done by both governmental and private organizations throughout the world to expose and counter the aims and tactics of international Communism and to foster alternatives consistent with the ideals and values of a free society. A number of these efforts are highly effective, although they appropriately are relatively unpublicized in the United States. Increasing attention is being given within the

Executive Branch to coordinating the existing U.S. governmental programs and encouraging complementary private activities abroad by universities, foundations, and international labor and professional organizations and their foreign affiliates.

In the educational and training fields the Executive Branch of our Government has been placing increasing emphasis on departmental, agency and interagency schools and training courses on the nature, theory, history and tactics of international Communism, with particular stress on means of countering Communist subversion and insurgency in underdeveloped areas. This Agency is actively participating in this program. There also are a number of private facilities in being or under development for training selected foreigners in combatting Communist subversive tactics and strengthening free institutions.

The intelligence community has long devoted a considerable amount of coordinated effort to collection, research and analysis programs concerned with the aims, strategy and modus operandi of international Communism and constant efforts are being made to strengthen and improve these programs adrawing on nongovernmental facilities and nonintelligence components of the Government as appropriate. The results of these research programs are made available to the foreign affairs action elements of the Government for guidance and exploitation.

I should like to point out that the foreign graduates of a Freedom Academy officially and openly sponsored by the government to combat Communism would be subject to Communist denunciation as well as the possible suspicion of their own governments upon their return to their homelands. The idea of providing training in recognizing and combatting Communist conspiratorial techniques is eminently sound, but I would have reservations as to whether a publicly established U.S. Government school of the kind envisaged would be an effective countermeasure to the secret political schools of the Communists. These derive what success they achieve from their secrecy and from the conspiratorial methods employed by their graduates, most of whom can only be identified by intelligence methods.

I trust that the points which we have discussed, which would have a bearing on any proposal which has as its objective the combatting of international Communism and the training of individuals in this endeavor, will be of some assistance to the Committee in its consideration of S. 414.

The Bureau of the Budget has no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.