

18 May 1966

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: Conversation with Senator Leverett Saltonstall**

1. On this date, I met with Senator Leverett Saltonstall and his Administrative Assistant William Saltonstall to discuss with them recent developments in the Michigan State University situation as well as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's action on the McCarthy resolution to establish a select Senate Committee on Intelligence Operations.
2. I discussed with Senator Saltonstall the article which appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES of 17 May indicating that Jack Faxon, Democratic representative to the Michigan State Legislature from Detroit, had written to Senator Saltonstall and the Secretary of State to obtain "concrete evidence" regarding the Michigan State/CIA inquiry. Senator Saltonstall has not yet received such a letter from Faxon. The Senator said that while he was reluctant to initiate correspondence to Faxon on the basis of the press article, he would be happy to respond to any inquiry from Faxon by restating the position he had taken on the Michigan State matter on the floor of the Senate. I told the Senator that the Director and Mr. Helms had been greatly impressed by his floor statement and would like to see the statement remain in this context to the extent possible.
3. I talked with the Senator and William Saltonstall at some length regarding the McCarthy resolution and raised with them some of the technical parliamentary points involved, i. e., the question of a point of order being raised as to the referral of the McCarthy resolution to the Armed Services and the Appropriations Committees and the question of the effect of the McCarthy resolution, as amended by the Senator, on the existing jurisdiction of the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees over CIA.

The Senator acknowledged the pertinence of these points but was not in a position to express judgment on them at this time. On the question of the referral of the resolution to Armed Services and Appropriations, Senator Saltonstall felt this was a judgment determination to be made by Senator Russell based on his assessment of his chances of defeating the resolution in a floor battle.

4. I then raised several points with the Senator concerning the debate on the McCarthy resolution on the floor of the Senate on Monday. I pointed out the inconsistency of Senator Fulbright's two positions. On the one hand he stated that the activities of CIA were of such a nature that they had a bearing on foreign policy and, therefore, this made CIA functions a matter of interest to the Foreign Relations Committee. On the other hand, he attempted to minimize the effect of passage of the McCarthy resolution by stating that this would only add three additional members to the existing Subcommittees of Appropriations and Armed Services. This seemed to be a new point to Senator Saltonstall and stimulated his interest. I also pointed out that in his statement regarding Admiral Raborn's reluctance to discuss certain matters with the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Fulbright had avoided pointing out the distinction (which had been made by the Director at the time of his testimony) between matters of intelligence information (which he was happy to discuss with the Committee) and matters involving Agency operations (which he felt he was under injunction not to discuss with that group). Senator Saltonstall also expressed interest in this point. I told him that we were preparing some material containing amplifications of arguments used in opposition of the McCarthy resolution on Monday and rebuttles to assertions made by Senators Fulbright and McCarthy during that debate. The Senator is most interested in having the benefit of this.

5. During private conversation with William Saltonstall, he made a point of mentioning that the Senator would be most receptive to a visit from Admiral Raborn in his office on the Hill should the Admiral be in the vicinity and be available on any given occasion during the lunch hour. Mr. Saltonstall said the Senator frequently had a corn beef sandwich in his office and would welcome the opportunity to chat with the Director if he were available particularly at that hour.

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