

7 August 1958

WJ
 R. Sturgis Ingersoll, Esq.
 Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll
 1035 Land Title Building
 Philadelphia 10, Pennsylvania

Dear Sturg:

I have your letter of August 4. You are only one of many recipients of such press releases and propaganda. If I were you, I would be inclined not to pay any attention to the matter nor make any acknowledgment, but consign the material to the waste paper basket, unless your curiosity is aroused to see what they are sending.

I mentioned this little problem to my FBI liaison, and you need not worry that your receipt of this material will get you into any trouble.

You may be interested in the attached State Department press release of today which bears on your problem.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
 Director

AWD:at:ji
 Dis:

0 - Addressee
 1 - ~~Enclosure~~
 1 - DCI
 1 - ER w/basic
 1 - Reading

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1035 LAND TITLE BUILDING
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Sam Papich

August 4, 1958

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles .
2430 "E" St. N.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Allie,

For some reason or other during the past few weeks I have been the recipient of releases from the Press Department of the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics emanating from 1706-18th St N.W., Washington 9, D.C.

In past years there was so much excitement and cross-examining of individuals with respect to communications they had received from subversive organizations that I am on inquiry as to whether I should tell the Soviet to take my name off their mailing list.

With best regards, and good wishes with respect to your immense responsibility,

Sincerely yours,


R. Sturgis Ingersoll

RSI/BR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FOR THE PRESS

AUGUST 7, 1958

NO. 452

DISTRIBUTION OF PRESS RELEASES BY THE
SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

On August 5, the Department of State delivered a note to the Soviet Embassy at Washington concerning the Embassy's distribution of press releases. The note points out that the Soviet Embassy recently began distributing press releases to the United States press, to individual members of the Congress, United States Government officials and members of the general public. These releases contain statements and appeals by Soviet leaders and organizations on a variety of subjects. They are distributed both directly and through the United States postal system.

The note inquires whether this action of the Soviet Embassy in Washington may be taken as an indication that the Soviet Government is prepared to insure full and effective reciprocal privileges for the United States Embassy in Moscow. In the note, the Department reiterates the long-standing support of the United States Government for a freer exchange of information and ideas and a lowering of the barriers erected by the Soviet Government in this field.

The text of the note follows:

The Acting Secretary of State of the United States of America presents his compliments to His Excellency the Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and has the honor to refer to the recent action of the Embassy in commencing wide distribution to the press, to individual members of Congress, to other Government officials, and to the general public, of press releases containing statements and appeals by Soviet leaders and organizations on a variety of subjects.

As the Soviet Government is aware, the United States Government has traditionally favored a free exchange of information and ideas among the peoples of the world. Evidence of United States initiative in this regard is contained, insofar as the Soviet Union is concerned, in the proposals submitted by the Foreign Ministers of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France on October 31, 1955 at the Geneva Meeting of Foreign Ministers and in the United States position during negotiations leading to the Agreement of January 27, 1958 on Exchanges in the Cultural, Technical, and Educational Fields.

Points one and two of the 1955 Geneva proposals state:

"1. Freer exchange of information and ideas should be facilitated. All censorship should be progressively eliminated.