

SECURITY INFORMATION

Approved For Release 2006/03/17 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003200020004-5

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE DIRECTOR OF
PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD
WASHINGTON

FEB 19 1952

General Walter Bedell Smith
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Smith:

I am attaching a copy of a letter from Mr. Berger which sets forth certain views of Mr. Harriman which grew out of the discussion of PSB D-14/b, [redacted]

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[redacted], at the last meeting. This letter should be noted in connection with the consideration at Thursday's meeting of the Under Secretary of State's written observations on this paper submitted at the ninth meeting and included in the minutes of that meeting.

My own thoughts are that Mr. Webb's remarks, taken together with Mr. Harriman's suggestions, present a desirable further explanation of the above observations. In order to record this explanation, I suggest that the Board adopt the following resolution based on Mr. Webb's and Mr. Harriman's suggestions:

"Resolved: The Board's approval of PSB D-14/b, as amended, is with the understanding that the specific actions set forth in that paper are permissive rather than mandatory, and are to be carried out in the discretion of the Ambassador and the Department of State. However, the fact that these actions are permissive in no way detracts from the Board's position: first, that the continued strength of the Communist movement [redacted] is a source of serious concern to the United States, which it intends to make clear to [redacted] Government at every appropriate occasion; second, that the

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Sincerely yours,

Raymond B. Allen
Director

Enclosure:

NSC review(s) completed.

Copy of Ltr from Mr. Berger
to Dr. Allen, dtd 2/12/52

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Office of the Director for Mutual Security
Washington 25, D. C.

February 12, 1952

Mr. Raymond B. Allen
Director, Psychological Strategy Board
708 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Allen:

Before Mr. Harriman left for Lisbon he discussed with me the observations on PSB D-14/b submitted to the January 31st Board meeting by Mr. Webb. Since the next meeting of the Board may be held before Mr. Harriman returns, I am sending you the views which he expressed to me before leaving.

The wording of the first paragraph of these observations states that the State Department is prepared to accept the report providing it is regarded as a guidance and is permissive and not mandatory. If all this is intended to convey is that the various courses of action set out in the report are suggestive, he is in full agreement. The Ambassador must have the right to decide which of the various courses should be acted on as well as the timing, the way any action is to be carried out, the degree of effort to be put behind it, etc., etc. Mr. Harriman is afraid, however, that the wording of the first paragraph of the observations might be taken to mean that the whole project is permissive, which, of course, the State Department did not intend.

In the interests of further clarification, he thinks it should also be made a matter of record that with the adoption of this report the U.S. Government not only recognizes that the continued strength of the Communist movement [redacted] is a source of serious concern to us, but lays down the policy that this concern, which has already been conveyed to the [redacted] should continue to be made clear to that Government at every appropriate occasion; and that we continue to ask the [redacted] what plan of action they have in mind to deal with this problem, for the main power and responsibility to correct this situation lies with them. All the other courses of action listed in the report should be permissive, but this course of action, which is never specifically indicated and only indirectly suggested in the report, should be clearly established.

I would add that I have discussed these points with Mr. Walmsley of the State Department and find there is full agreement between us.

Sincerely,

/s/ S. D. Berger

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