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April 4, 1983

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83-0943

The Honorable William J. Casey  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

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FILE: 70-7

83-0943

Dear Mr. Casey:

I write to ask whether you might be able to assist in a matter involving the facilitation of a scholarly research project. A senior faculty member as well as an undergraduate are independently doing research on the contributions of Yale men to the intelligence effort during the Second World War. Quite coincidentally, their inquiries led both to the papers of the late Norman Holmes Pearson, now deposited in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Pearson served with the Strategic Service Unit Mission to Great Britain during the War, and his papers contain approximately fifteen documents which are classified, many of which date from the War, but none in any case dated later than May 1946. Enclosed is a listing of the documents in question.

I am told that documents that old are routinely to be declassified, but that the process takes nearly two years. I wonder whether, in the interest of scholarly research, the declassification process might be expedited in this instance. There is some urgency here, because the undergraduate student doing research in the Pearson papers is to graduate this year, and the project is his senior paper, due in the near future.

Would it be possible to accelerate the declassification of these documents? I would greatly appreciate anything you could do to help. The University's General Counsel has the documents in question and is prepared to deliver them to your staff personally, if you so advise.

With very best wishes,

Very truly yours,

[Signature Box] STAT

ABG:rmc

Enclosure

cc:

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