

Joint Committee
1 MAY 1960

Honorable George Meader
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Meader:

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We have reviewed the letter to you from [redacted] [redacted] dated 15 April 1960, which you referred to us for comment. [redacted] is concerned, among other things, with the relationship between the Congress and the Central Intelligence Agency.

As you are aware, the Congressional Committees having jurisdiction over the Agency are the Senate and House Armed Services Committees. The Agency also reports to the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and the House. In each of the four Committees mentioned there has been established a Subcommittee to consider matters affecting the Agency. These arrangements have been in existence for some time and the Agency makes periodic appearances before these Subcommittees.

As a matter of information, Agency representatives made twenty-eight appearances before various Congressional Committees last year including the Committees listed above. These appearances included sessions with Senate Foreign Relations, House Foreign Affairs, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, and others.

It may also be of assistance to note that the Central Intelligence Agency was established by the National Security Act of 1947 under the National Security Council. The Agency reports to the National Security Council and functions in accord with National Security Council directions promulgated pursuant to the National Security Act. In connection with appropriations, the Bureau of the Budget carefully reviews the proposed budget of this Agency prior to submission to the Congress. In addition, the President has established a Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence to review the activities of the Agency and make reports and recommendations respecting the Agency to the President.

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[redacted] letter is returned herewith as you requested.
If you should desire any further information, please let us know.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

[redacted]
Assistant Legislative Counsel

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