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Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Monday - 16 August 1954

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1. Mr. Wisner briefed me on the meeting between Congressman Kersten, the DCI and himself, and his subsequent meeting with Congressman Kersten. These discussions turned largely around the proposed Kersten Committee investigation of communism in Latin America, with special emphasis on Guatemala. The DCI appears to be giving serious consideration to a proposal from Kersten that a special group at Georgetown University make a detailed study of this situation. I told Mr. Wisner that it would be necessary for me to see Congressman Hillings in the next few days and that Hillings would head the subcommittee on Guatemala. Mr. Wisner agreed that I could assure Congressman Hillings of our cooperation and that we would make certain material available to the subcommittee, particularly documents and photographs which we have screened out.

2. I saw Cong. Hillings for a few minutes this evening and he said that he wished to discuss several things with me, including his proposed investigation. He said that Cong. Kersten had informed him today of his conversations with the Director. I will make an appointment with Mr. Hillings very shortly.

3. I told Mr. Wisner that I was being caught short in that I did not have anything official I can say about [redacted] on Capitol Hill. Mr. Wisner told me that I could state that [redacted] was primarily a [redacted] and that if it were an American problem at all it was a very distant third. Furthermore, I could point out that [redacted] security and were therefore not comparable to CIA responsibilities except in a narrow area. For that reason he would have no official knowledge of CIA operations as such.

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