

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

The Honorable Barry M. Goldwater
 Chairman
 Select Committee on Intelligence
 United States Senate
 Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Barry:

Thank you for your letter of 2 May concerning the Agency's publication of economic information on an unclassified basis. As you recall, I indicated during our discussion of 24 March that I would reexamine the issue but would like to reserve judgement until a special panel review, now under way, is available. The final report of this review is being prepared by my Military-Economic Advisory Panel under the direction of [redacted] and should be in my hands early in June. I would like to respond to your request at that time.

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In the meantime, we will continue to release unclassified information through responsible departments rather than under the Agency's seal. Some of the information you would like to see in the public domain has been released in this way recently. The dollar cost comparison of US and USSR defense activities has been summarized on an unclassified basis and released to the public by the Secretary of Defense in the Annual Report to the Congress, Fiscal Year 1984, and in the statement to the Congress by the Under Secretary of Defense Research and Engineering, The FY-1984 Department of Defense Program for Research, Development, and Acquisition. These statements provide less detail than our previous publications but nonetheless summarize our analysis without involving our people directly in public controversy.

In your letter of 13 April 1983 you noted another CIA report which you felt we should continue to publish on an unclassified basis, Communist Aid Activities in Non-Communist Less Developed Countries. This information was released through a February 1983 publication by the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Soviet and East European Aid to the Third World, 1931.

When the [redacted] report arrives in early June, we will complete the review I promised in March and will be in touch as soon as possible.

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Sincerely,

William J. Casey
 Director of Central Intelligence

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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LDI- 2823

April 13, 1983

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

Dear Bill:

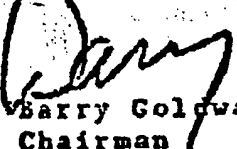
Thank you for appearing before the Committee on March 24, 1983, to discuss publication of a dollar cost comparison of Soviet and U.S. defense expenditures and Communist Aid Activities in Non-Communist Less Developed Countries.

As we discussed in the hearing, I agreed to withhold any further judgment until all the Members had an opportunity to review your testimony. Each Member received a copy of your talking points as well as a copy of the complete statement. They were then polled as to whether or not publication of these documents by CIA should continue. The response was overwhelmingly supportive of continued publication in an unclassified form. But, the Vice Chairman, Pat Moynihan, sided with you on the issue.

Bill, Members of the Committee, including myself, were simply not convinced by your arguments. These are just the sort of reports that the CIA should be making available to the public so they can better understand the magnitude and the nature of Soviet defense expenditures, as well as their aid activities to non-Communist less developed countries around the world.

We think that the decision to cancel dissemination of these two reports as CIA products was wrong, and we urge you to reconsider.

Sincerely,



Barry Goldwater
Chairman

Enclosures

EXCISE
REC

BARRY GOLDWATER
ARIZONA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

- INTELLIGENCE CHAIRMAN
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- ARMY
- NAVY, AIR FORCE, AND SPACE
- INDIAN AFFAIRS

...approved in the hearing. It agreed to...
 May 2, 1983... Each Member received a copy of...
 well as a copy of the complete statement...
 and a copy of the publication of these...

Rec'd 9 May
 Executive Registry
 83-2461

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

Dear Bill: ...
 The more I think about it and the more people I talk to across this country, the more I think you should resume the publication of your annual economic report. I know this is a burden to you and I know you have your doubts. However, I know that it wasn't done by you but, by your predecessor. I do think it is a most desirable document and I would urge you to reinstitute its publication. If you care to talk about this, I am ready. If you will go ahead and do it, I'm ready to receive my first copy.

Sincerely,
Barry
 Barry Goldwater