

ADDRESS OFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON



**CONFIDENTIAL**

April 21, 1955

Dear Mr. [ ]

In your memorandum of January 27, 1955, you recommended that the United States Government support and sponsor the forthcoming trip to Japan by John Jay Hopkins, President of General Dynamics, Incorporated. Mr. Farley of this office has discussed our views on this proposal with Mr. Jack Shaffer, but I find that we have not confirmed this conversation.

We are pleased to see contacts between representatives of private industry in this and other countries who are interested in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. We have, of course, no objection to Mr. Hopkins' trip in his capacity as a private citizen and industrialist, and we have made this clear in discussions with officials of General Dynamics.

I am not persuaded, however, of the wisdom of official endorsement of his trip. Mr. Hopkins has received a good deal of publicity as a result of his espousal of an "Atomic Marshall Plan." This proposal differs in important respects from our established national policy regarding cooperation with other countries in the atomic energy field, which does not envisage a broad program of grant aid. We would run the risk of encouraging false hopes as to the prospects of United States financing of atomic power plants, and also as to the imminence of atomic power, if we were to indorse Mr. Hopkins as a United States spokesman.

With regard to the role of Mr. Shoriki in arranging for Mr. Hopkins' trip, I trust that you have seen the messages from our Embassy in Tokyo concerning the controversial nature of Mr. Shoriki as a public figure (e.g., Tokyo despatch 1099, a copy of which has been furnished your Agency).

With regard to your recommendation that a top-level atomic physicist be selected by a Government agency to accompany Mr. Hopkins, we understand that Dr. E. O. Lawrence and Dr. L. E. Hafstad will accompany Mr. Hopkins, although not in any official capacity.

Sincerely yours,

Gerard C. Smith  
Special Assistant to the Secretary

Mr. [ ]  
Special Assistant to the Director,  
Central Intelligence Agency,  
Washington, D. C. FOR COORDINATION WITH State

**CONFIDENTIAL**

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)  
(2)(A) Privacy   
(2)(B) Methods/Sources   
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

and Approved for Release  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Date: 2005