

For Mr. Humelsine's eyes only

27 September 1947

My Dear Carl: Colonel Clarke, my messenger to you of yesterday September 26th, has reported the result of his delivery of my memo dated 25th. As I understand him you were unwilling to commit yourself to any agreement regarding not communicating its contents to any other person in view of the fact that you felt you already knew certain of the things probably referred to in the memo, as suggested to you by seeing the security clearance MAJIC, and (b) you could not feel that such a letter as this could have been addressed to you without the knowledge of the President.

As to (a) above I am quite willing to have you read what comes hereafter with the understanding that you are bound not to communicate to any other person any portions on which you do not have or later receive factual knowledge from some other source than myself. As to (b) above you have my word that neither the Secretary of Defense nor the President has any intimation whatsoever that such a letter has been addressed to you or that the preparation or sending of such was being considered. I assure you that the only persons who saw or know of the existence of either this letter or my letter one of you dated September 25th are General Eisenhower, seven key officers responsible for security of MAJIC military communications, and my secretary who typed these letters.

I am trying my best to make it clear in this letter that it is addressed to you only and my intention was to have it delivered only to you. I consulted only with the Secretary of Defense and I am persistering in this matter because the military has a duty to protect the national interest and some action is necessary to protect our armed forces.

I should have much preferred to see you in person but I did not devise a method that would not be subject to leaks and radio reactions as to why the Secretary of Defense would be making an interview with you. This particular method was chosen because I have needed the method of this letter with these words to be delivered to you by Colonel Clarke who accidentally has one of the most secret documents of the Army, Navy and Air Force Departments.

You will understand from the foregoing the extremely tragic nature of the present rumors regarding New York and the disclosure to the public government or Congressional for any suspicion of such a disclosure of information we possess.

Please return this letter by hand to the Secretary of Defense by the next day. It is subject to your reference and I am sure you will be satisfied.

Faithfully yours,