

8 October 63

to Mike Dunn
 fcs 1 Bohanan

Scarnes Story

1. On the way out to the airport with Rufe this noon I read the Scarnes story about the company for the first time, and was damn well appalled.

2. The person responsible for that story is almost certainly the one who has been consistently pushing the line that the company is out of hand, making policy, a cancerous growth, etc. Not that there aren't a lot of people who tend to feel that way about it, but it seems to me clearly evident that some one person has been consistently pushing that line in recent weeks — and that it is someone here.

3. Further, that someone is a damn dangerous person, with either a psychopathic condition that makes him lose sight of reality, or flatly treasonable motivations. Whichever he is, he must be located immediately. If it takes feeding brother Starnes feet first into a slow fire, I am perfectly willing to help.

4. For the record, I have discussed this with both Rufe and our Corsican friend. They concur strongly in the second of the two recommendations for Ambassadorial action which I enclose (did not discuss the first with them) and in the view that the talker must be found out. They also agree that none of us (the three) can reasonably conceive of the talker being any past or present member of the company in any position to have information of this type. We even doubt if it could be the only real black sheep — whose wife is presently doing the talking — and we cannot imagine his having the information disclosed. In other words, we don't have a clue, but are thinking hard.

5. Enclosed, in draft, are two recommended actions for the Ambassador, generally in reaction to the Starnes story. You may make such use of them, and this memo, as you deem appropriate. Consider also the slickness of the paper.

See you soon

1. Issue a press release, or state for quotation, in substance:

The recent speculation in the press that certain agencies of the United States are improperly making, or influencing, US policy is not merely preposterous, but verges on treason. It is indeed giving aid and comfort to the enemy, while seriously handicapping the achievement of the goals of the United States and the Free World. To indulge in speculation about the actions or motives of individuals may, and frequently does, work hardships on them; but to indulge in such speculations about agencies of the United States which are obviously deeply involved in the formulation and implementation of US policy is not permissible. *

2. Cable Washington, in substance:

Request immediate formation of team of top investigators, including representation from Defense, State, CIA, and perhaps Justice, to conduct/as exhaustive an investigation as may be necessary to discover the source of stories (such as that of Scarnes) which report that CIA is improperly influencing US policy decisions or actions, and which obviously emanate from an individual with access to sensitive information. Scope of investigation, it is considered, should be limited to this point, rather than being broad fishing expedition seeking to trace "leaks" in general.

* Obviously needs rewording, but have no time to do so at the moment.