

~~TOP SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION~~

February 19, 1953



Dear Mr. Secretary:

The dangers inherent in the employment by the Chinese Communists of the so-called "brain washing" techniques on U. S. personnel within their custody and the other implications mentioned in your letter of February 19 were discussed today at the luncheon meeting of the PSB and the development of a program will be undertaken as a matter of grave urgency.

Fortunately, there has for some time been working, under the aegis of the Central Intelligence Agency, a panel of scientists who have been investigating these techniques. The result of this investigation will probably serve as a convenient and interest-attaining basis for the program which you suggest.

Mr. Kyes, who was present at the luncheon, will be kept informed of the progress of the staff work which will be undertaken initially by the Central Intelligence Agency in coordination with the interested Departments and which will be pursued as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,

WALTER B. SMITH

Walter B. Smith

The Honorable
Charles E. Wilson,
Secretary of Defense,
Washington 25, D. C.



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