SUBJECT: Cornell Research in Civil Liberties

Having sent a letter transmitting the S memorandum by Matthews to Cushman and not having received a reply, I called Cushman on the phone on Friday of last week. He told me:

1. That Gellhorn is not making the study of activities of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

2. That study is being made by Carr of Dartmouth who is highly recommended by President Dickey, and was the Secretary of the President's Committee on Civil Liberties.

3. Gellhorn has already completed his study of the procedure by which security cases are handled within the Government. C says it is an excellent job and will stand on its own feet.

4. Matthews was the former investigator of the former Dies Committee. The report on Gellhorn was made when he was investigator. It was not a Committee report, but was suspended by the Committee, although the contents of it had been apparently handed out in various ways.

5. Gellhorn has requested permission of the House Committee on Un-American Activities to appeal before an executive session and answer the charges that have been made against him.

6. He had prepared a 40 page statement for Cushman answering the charges. Cushman - whose intelligence, judgment, and integrity I respect completely - is completely satisfied concerning Gellhorn. He feels that his study will stand on its own feet and that the charges against Gellhorn are completely unfair.

7. Cushman is having a meeting of the Advisory Committee soon to discuss the whole problem.

8. Yesterday there came a letter with an attached 4 page letter and enclosures from Cushman discussing the whole matter.

This whole matter is the responsibility of Cornell University
and especially of Dr. Cushman. I am completely satisfied that it is in competent hands. I shall ask Dr. Cushman whether he thinks it worthwhile and appropriate for LFK to inform Mr. Solkosky that Cellhorn is not making the study of the House Committee.

J.H.W.

JHW:JDB