

December 2, 1946.

My dear Senator:

Early today I wrote a letter to each member of our committee regarding the request that the report of the counsel of our committee be released to the public by the committee. In this letter I designated this Friday for a meeting of our committee at which this matter would be decided after a careful discussion by the committee. In the same letter I expressed my own personal opposition to giving currency to the unverified charges which constitute so large a portion of the counsel's report, and my opinion ~~and~~ that its release by our committee would be contrary to fair procedure. When I learned that certain members of our committee had individually released the counsel's report without waiting for the committee meeting which had been designated, I made public the letter which I had written as chairman.

Late today before leaving Washington for my own state, I received a summary of the report made by the Inspector General of the Army and his Staff with respect to the original charges which had been placed before our committee and which had precipitated our committee's interest in the Military Government of Germany. I am asking my office to transmit a copy of this report to you as soon as it is duplicated. This report demonstrates the grave dangers of giving currency to unverified charges. It is clear that the original and sole sworn witness before the committee on this matter was referring to individual cases, and that he endeavored to correct certain errors of generalization in his testimony and was not permitted to do so by the committee counsel. In view of the fact that the counsel's report on the charges has been released to the public, I am making the Inspector General's report publicly available.

Respectfully yours,

Harley M. Kilgore,
Chairman,
Special Committee Investigating
The National Defense Program.