

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Ed:

I am persuaded that the attached proposal has significant merit and deserves your careful consideration. You will note that it calls for the appointment of a small Working Group to refine the proposal and make recommendations to the President on the merit of creating an Institute, Council or National Endowment in support of free institutions throughout the world.

Obviously we here should not get out front in the development of such an organization, nor do we wish to appear to be a sponsor or advocate. Nevertheless, the needs appear real and I believe our national fabric for dealing with many issues and problems would be well served by such an institute.

We would be pleased to make suggestions on the composition of the Working Group and Commission.

Yours,

William J. Casey

Enclosure

The Honorable Edwin Meese III
Counsellor to the President
The White House