

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF DEFENSE MOBILIZATION  
Washington 25, D. C.

C O P Y

November 15, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am enclosing for the information of the appropriate authorities in the Defense Department, copies of a report of the Office of Defense Mobilization to the National Security Council and of letters to the Director of Central Intelligence Agency, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of State which, as you will see, deal with the responsibilities of the Office of Defense Mobilization under NSC 163/1. The particular focus of these letters is on the protection of Chilean copper and of Venezuelan oil and the refineries at Curacao and Aruba.

I believe that this will be a matter of particular concern to the Department of Defense since it involves, in both cases and more especially with respect to Venezulean petroleum and the refineries, the supplies on which Western Europe would have to depend in very large part for making up any deficits from losses of oil imports from the Middle East. It seems to me a matter of some concern that a special watchfulness should be exercised in these areas in connection with the joint responsibilities which the Department of Defense has with this Office and the Department of State and the Central Intelligence Agency under Section 3, Sub-section a of NSC 163/1.

I would very much appreciate your cooperation with the Central Intelligence Agency and with the Department of the Interior in any matters in which they would need your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Signed

Arthur S. Flemming  
Director

