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Approved For Release 2005/06/08: CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010007

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

24 SEP 1976

Mr. John William Ward President, Amherst College Amherst, Massachusetts

Dear President Ward:

This is in response to your letters of 17 May 1976 and 2 August 1976 to the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) requesting, under the Freedom of Information Act, information concerning "paid or unpaid contacts between the CIA and any faculty member, student or employee of Amherst College."

As you can appreciate, this Agency receives many requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding confidential relationships between the CIA and various foreign and American individuals and institutions. We are obliged, however, to respond to such requests neither affirmatively nor negatively because the DCI has a responsibility, under paragraph 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947, to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure. To the extent that this constitutes a denial of your request it was made pursuant to the authority of exemption (b)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act.

This determination was made by Chief,
Services Staff. We would hope that the Director's letter of June 5, 1976
and the above findings will satisfy your concern. However, as specified
in the Freedom of Information Act, I am advising you of your right to appeal
this decision by addressing your appeal to the CIA Information Review
Committee, via the undersigned.

I am sure you will understand that we cannot deny the existence of such relationships in response to one inquiry without being compelled to acknowledge them in some others. Accordingly, please understand that this response should not be taken to imply that Amherst College personnel have been engaged in confidential relationships with the Central Intelligence Agency.

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I regret that under the circumstances we are unable to be more forthcoming in our response to your request. May I add, however, that as the Director pointed out in his letter to you of June 5, any academician with whom the Agency has a relationship is free to acknowledge that fact to his or her college or university administration. Let me also repeat his assurance that we do understand and appreciate the vital role of our colleges and universities in the preservation of freedom.

Sincerely,

Gene F. Wilson
Information and Privacy Coordinator

STAT

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2. DCI Room 7D-5607	,		response to President Ward of Amherst College on his FOIA request. As you may recall,
DD/Administration Room 7D-24, Hqs.			there was a previous exchange of correspondence between you and President Ward on the
ц.			matter of any Agency affilia- tion with people associated with Amherst.
5.			The preparation of this
6.			letter, which will be routinely forwarded by Mr. Wilson, the Information and
7.			Privacy Coordinator, has been the subject of extensive consultation and review
8.			between and among Andrew Falkiewicz, the FOIA people, the lawyers
9. Distribution: Original - DCI w/A	t & Dofe		and myself. The letter given you has been seen and agreed to by Mr. Knoche. It
10. 2 - ER w/at 1 - DDA Sub	ts & Refs lect w/atts	a refs	represents the best consensus as to how to reply to President Ward, bearing in
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Remarks: To 19: See DCI's note to me. The outstanding letter is yours. Please clear with DDCI and DCI. You should know by now that there are three DDI and one DDO source on campus. It is my understanding none are paid, but I may be wrong.

10 August 1976

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#### Approved For Release 2005/06/08: CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010007-2 AMHERST COLLEGE

Executive Registry
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AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS 01002

The President

413-542-2234 413-542-2000

August 2, 1976

George Bush, Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. George Bush:

My slowness in responding to you is no measure of my pleasure with your personal and thoughtful response to my letter of inquiry.

I look forward to the response from "the appropriate office" to the question concerning paid or unpaid contact between the Central Intelligency Agency and any faculty member, student, or employee of Amherst College.

I have deliberated for some time whether to respond at length, and have decided not to. First, I truly do not wish to impose myself upon you. I was not being simply polite when I said your responsibilities are heavy, and I would not wish to add to them unduly. Second, as a friend once said to me when we were talking together about one's political responsibility, my first responsibility is to see to it that the institution at which I have the pleasure of being President is well-run. So, I would prefer to wait upon an answer to my inquiry before rhetorical speculation.

There are distinctions properly to be made, and you make some. There are also differences, I suspect, between us on how a scholar or an institution of learning may best serve American society. If I were to pursue those differences, it would best be done by way of particular instances, so I will resist the impulse and wait to see if there are instances which involve Amherst College which are germane to my concerns.

Again, however, I truly thank you for your letter.

Cordially,

John William Ward

# Approved For Release 2005/06/08: CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010007-2 ENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Washington, D.C. 20505

Mr. John William Ward President Amherst College Amherst, MA 01002

Dear President Ward:

This in in response to your letters of 17 May 1976 and 2 August 1976 to the Director of Central Intelligence requesting, under the Freedom of Information Act, information concerning "paid or unpaid contacts between the CIA and any faculty member, student or employee of Amherst College."

As you can appreciate, this Agency receives many requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding confidential relationships between the CIA and various foreign and American individuals and institutions. It is our policy, however, to respond to such requests neither affirmatively nor negatively. This policy derives from the fact that the DCI has a responsibility, under paragraphs 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947, to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure. Thus, we have no choice but to deny your request in accordance with both the 1947 Act and paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act. I am sure you will understand that we cannot deny the existence of such relationships in response to one inquiry without being compelled to acknowledge them in some others. Accordingly, please understand that this response should not be taken to imply that Amherst College personnel have been engaged in confidential relationships with the Central Intelligence Agency.

I regret that under the circumstances we are unable to be more forthcoming in our response to your request. May I add, however, that as the Director pointed out in his letter to you of 5 June, any academician with whom the Agency has a relationship is free to acknowledge that fact to his or her college or university administration. Let me also repeat his assurance that we do understand and appreciate the vital role of our colleges and universities in the preservation of freedom.



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The determination explained above was made by Chief of Services Staff. As specified in the Freedom of Information Act, I am advising you of your right to appeal this decision by addressing your appeal to the CIA Information Review Committee, via the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Gene F. Wilson Information and Privacy Coordinator

# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY Washington, D.C. 20505

5 June 1976

Mr. John William Ward
President
Amherst College
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

Dear President Ward:

This is in response to your letter of 17 May 1976, in which you levied upon CIA a Freedom of Information Act request concerning paid or unpaid contact between the Agency and any faculty member. student, or employee of Amherst College. This aspect of your letter has been referred to the appropriate office for handling under procedures designed to implement the Act. You will receive that response in due course.

You raised several other issues in your letter, and their tone suggests that you misunderstand the nature of CIA contact with the academic community. I note that you sent William Van Alstyne, President, AAUP, a copy of your letter to me. As you apparently are aware, he also wrote expressing concerns similar to yours. I believe that my response to him was clear, and I take the liberty of quoting here from that letter, dated 11 May 1976. I said,

"The Agency has several kinds of relationships with scholars and scholarly institutions. They include negotiated contracts for scientific research and development, contracts for social science research on the many matters that affect foreign policy, paid and unpaid consultations between scholars and CIA research analysts, contracts with individuals who have travelled abroad, and other similar contracts that help us fulfill our primary responsibility; i.e., to provide the policy makers of our government with information and assessments of foreign developments.

We seek the voluntary and witting cooperation of individuals who can help the foreign policy processes of the United States. Those who help are expressing a freedom of choice. Occasionally such relationships are confidential at our request,



but more often they are discreet at the scholar's request because of his concern that he will be badgered by those who feel he should not be free to make this particular choice.

None of the relationships are intended to influence either what is taught or any other aspect of a scholar's work. We specifically do not try to inhibit the 'free search for truth and its free exposition.' Indeed, we would be foolish to do so, for it is the truth we seek. We know that we have no monopoly on fact or on understanding, and to restrict the search for the truth would be extremely detrimental to our own purposes. If CIA were to isolate itself from the good counsel of the best scholars in our country, we would surely become a narrow organization that could give only inferior service to the government. The complexity of international relations today requires that our research be strong, and we intend to keep it strong by seeking the best perspectives from inside and outside the government."

I hope that the above statement is reassuring. Let me say that any employee of any school with whom we have had an exchange of views in his capacity as employee is free to acknowledge that fact publicly or to his college or university administration. My understanding of these matters leads me to believe, however, that while consulting with any part of our government a scholar usually thinks of himself as a private actor rather than as part of the institution of higher education from which he comes. Thus, he feels neither more nor less obligated to report his relationship with CIA than he would his consultations with other U.S. agencies, with U.S. and foreign businesses, or with foreign governments. Since we do not seek scholarly contact from particular schools, but rather reach out for advice from the best authorities wherever they may be, I see some merit in the scholar's logic.

I also want you to be assured that I do understand the important role of our colleges and universities in the preservation of freedom. Each institution in our society must make its own rules and policies about the conduct of its members. I seriously disagree with two of your points, however.

First, I cannot agree that secrecy is necessarily a threat to freedom-either to the freedom of the individual or to the freedom associated with true scholarship. Surely you would not argue that a professor whose research contributed to the development of a sensor that could warn of strategic attack is obligated to publish the research findings that make the system effective. I also hope that you can see the merit of secrecy that ensures the flow of vital information to the government by protecting sources and methods of collection. If you can accept that secrecy, then would you preclude a scholar who consults with the government from reviewing information that is protected? And if a scholar reviews secret factual details about a foreign policy problem, would you require him to reveal those details when he writes his next article on foreign affairs for a scholarly journal?

Finally, I hope that any policies or standards of ethics that you adopt for Amherst will include an encouragement to serve the society and its institutions. I believe that on his own time a faculty member should be free to consult or contract with the CIA or any other part of the government without fear of censure. For our part, we will never coerce someone to cooperate. Having said that, it seems to me that a scholar's conscience, rather than an institutional "yes" or "no", should determine his relationship with the government.

Approved For Release 2005/06/08: CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010007-2

Sincerely,

George Bush Director

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May 17, 1976

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LOG (F)

Mr. George Bush Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Bush:

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, under the Chairmanship of Senator Frank Church, in its report on covert and clandestine relations between the C.I.A. and universities, recommended no action to prohibit such relations. Instead, the Senate Select Committee said it believes "it is the responsibility of private institutions and particularly the American academic community to set the professional and ethical standards of its members."

I accept the responsibility named by the Senate Select Committee, and write you for information which I need in order to discharge it. Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), I wish to know, as President of Amherst College, whether any intelligence operation conducted by the C.I.A. has involved any faculty member, student, or employee of Amherst College, including, but not limited to, paid or unpaid agents or informers.

I do not wish to have the name of specific individuals. I wish only to know whether and to what extent any individual at Amherst College may have been involved in covert relations with the C.I.A. Frankly, I am incredulous that any individual could possibly have been, but then the report of the Senate Select Committee is surely a challenge to innocentariath in the operations of agencies of the United States government.

I do not wish to lecture faculty, students, or employees of the College, in the abstract, about their professional and ethical obligations. To do so could only arouse general suspicion and free-floating anxiety, wonderment about why I address the question at all. I find myself in the awkward position of not knowing, by definition, whether there is some secret the past.

Important issues are involved. At Amherst College, we try to teach students to live by a code of "intellectual responsibility." A sentence from that code reads, "Amherst cannot educate those who are unwilling to subattempt to capture in words the ideal of an intellectual community, the belief that openness, honesty, the willingness to say what one has to say necessary conditions of intellectual life. Secrecy subverts those essential values and conditions. It is, to put it simply, intolerable in an academic community.

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Mr. George Bush

-2-

May 17, 1976

More is involved, no less than the conditions of freedom in a pluralistic and free society. That is not simply rhetoric. Your responsibilities as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency are heavy and grave. The justification of all you do derives finally from the defense of freedom. But in a free society, the surest way to subvert freedom is to call into doubt, to question the authenticity and credibility of free and independent institutions within American society itself.

Between the isolated individual and the awesome power of the state, a free society depends upon intermediate institutions to act as buffers against power, to say "No" to power. To erode the capacity to believe that private institutions do play the role which freedom requires is to create a psychology of mistrust and fear which can only weaken freedom itself.

Your responsibility is great. My responsibility is small. But to discharge my responsibility, namely, to remind members of one academic community of their proper intellectual and moral and political responsibility, requires information from you. It is information legally required, but I would not insist on that. It is morally required.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Cordially,

John William Ward

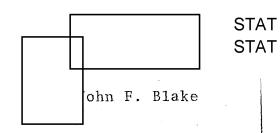
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cc: William W. Van Alstyne, President, AAUP George L. Shinn, Chairman, Board of Trustees Senator Frank Church Senator Edward Kennedy Senator Edward Brooke

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is my understanding, however, that this alternative approach does not have agreement of either or Andrew.



Distribution:

Atts

Orig RS - DDCI w/Orig of Atts 1 RS - ER w/atts Mr. John William Ward President Amherst College Amherst, MA 01002

Dear President Ward:

This is in response to your request under the Freedom of Information Act, contained in your letter of 17 May to the Director of Central Intelligence, for information concerning the existence and extent of relations between the CIA and any individual affiliated with Amherst College.

Records which would evidence the existence or non-existence of such covert relations would also reveal intelligence sources and methods which the Director of Central Intelligence has the responsibility to protect from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with paragraph 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947. Consequently, we have no choice but to deny your request pursuant to the authority of paragraph (b)(1) and (b)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act. This determination was made by

Please note that this answer does not necessarily imply the existence of such records.

I wish to make reference also to the letter to you of 5 June from the Director of Central Intelligence and, in particular, I invite your attention to that portion of the letter which states that any academician with whom the Agency has a relationship is free to acknowledge that fact to his or her college or university administration. Again, as the Director pointed out in his letter, we do want to assure you that we do understand the important role of our colleges and universities in the preservation of freedom.

Sincerely,

Gene F. Wilson Information and Privacy Coordinator

Mr. John William Ward President Amherst College Amherst, MA 01002

Dear President Ward:

This is in response to your letters of 17 May 1976 and 2 August 1976, and with reference to the letter dated 5 June 1976 sent to you by the Director of Central Intelligence.

We have completed an exhaustive search of our records and the results disclose that this Agency maintains no covert relationships with anyone who is connected with Amherst College, either as a member of the staff, or as a member of the student body.

We have determined that over the years there had been a number of varied contacts with members of the staff at Amherst College in the 1950s, fewer in the 1960s, and only a couple in the 1970s. These contacts have run the gamut of routine purposes, such as identification of prospective candidates for employment, professional consultation, and requests for study materials by Amherst College personnel.

None of these contacts involved covert relationships. We note that in your letter of 17 May 1976 you stated that you were not interested in the names of any specific individuals.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Agency.

Sincerely,

Gene F. Wilson Information and Privacy Coordinator

## AMHERST COLLEGE

AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS 01002

413-542-2234 413-542-2000

The President

August 2, 1976

George Bush, Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. George Bush:

My slowness in responding to you is no measure of my pleasure with your personal and thoughtful response to my letter of inquiry.

I look forward to the response from "the appropriate office" to the question concerning paid or unpaid contact between the Central Intelligency Agency and any faculty member, student, or employee of Amherst College.

I have deliberated for some time whether to respond at length, and have decided not to. First, I truly do not wish to impose myself upon you. I was not being simply polite when I said your responsibilities are heavy, and I would not wish to add to them unduly. Second, as a friend once said to me when we were talking together about one's political responsibility, my first responsibility is to see to it that the institution at which I have the pleasure of being President is well-run. So, I would prefer to wait upon an answer to my inquiry before rhetorical speculation.

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Again, however, I truly thank you for your letter.

Cordially,

Approved For Release 2005/06/08: CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010007-2

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