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September 7, 1954

MEMORANDUM

For: Corbin Allardice
From: Frank Cotter C
Subject: Second Fuchs

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4

NND 922079
By EK/DM, NARA, Date 5/24/95

I would like to summarize the data we have developed during the past year on the possibility that there was a second Fuchs in the atomic energy program.

- (1) A review of the available reference sources on the Fuchs' interviews has always left considerable doubt in the minds of the Committee staff as to whether or not the Soviet's had an additional source of information contemporaneous with Fuchs. There were several statements made in the Perrin interview which certainly contributed to these doubts.
- (2) Last winter when I was visiting at Livermore, I had an opportunity to discuss the whole security program with Dr. L. Alvarez. At that time Alvarez expressed concern over the fact that a second source of information to the Soviets had not been uncovered. He stated quite knowingly that Fuchs' Soviet contact had specifically asked him for information contained in Los Alamos documents identifying these documents by number.
- (3) Since the discussion with Alvarez the matter of documents by number has been generally confirmed in conversations with personnel of the CIA and other intelligence agencies. Apparently there remains little doubt but that the Alvarez statement was factually correct.
- (4) On my recent trip to Los Alamos I engaged in conversation on this matter with an individual whose identity you know. Immediately following my questions on the numbers matter, he stated, "Oh, that was probably Hall." He said Hall had been the subject of an espionage investigation which produced evidence that was apparently quite

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Fm: Frank Cotter
Subj: Second Fuchs (Cont'd)

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conclusive, but insufficient to bring prosecution.

On the following day this individual further identified Hall as Charles Augustus Hall, who was both in the Army and employed as a civilian at Los Alamos in the early days.

As you know, I have made several requests here in Washington for the documentation of this Hall matter. It is quite apparent that AEC has no knowledge of Hall, but the intelligence agencies have considerable information about him.

On Friday, September 3, I discussed Hall with an employee of an intelligence agency known to you. In reply to my inquiry, he said, "You have a gold mine there, but it is the wrong gold mine." What he meant by that, apparently, was that the Hall case was really a bad one, but that he did not believe Hall was the second Fuchs.

I will continue to inquire into this matter with the utmost discretion.

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