

DRAFT *IV*

12 February 1954.

Dear Sir,

I have received your registered letter of 5 February 1954 with its enclosures. With ~~your~~ regard to ^{your} ~~the~~ request ~~you have made~~ that I submit a written reply, under oath, to the Interrogatory enclosed with your communication, I should like to refer you to my letter of 16 April 1953 to Mr. Albert F. Bender, United States Mission to the United Nations. A copy of that letter is enclosed herewith.

~~I believe that the~~ considerations which I presented in my letter of 16 April 1953 apply equally to your request as communicated in the registered letter of 5 February 1954. These considerations, and my interpretation of my rights, have never been contradicted by ~~any official~~ of the U.S. Mission or other ^{any} ~~Government~~ ^{official} department.

of the independence of each Tribunal
The principles, on which my letter of 16 April 1953 was based should not, ^{ever} I feel, be ignored, particularly in the light of the character ^{of the derogatory information} presented. The Interrogatory does not

in this case
contain one iota of information which in any way challenges my qualifications as an international civil servant, either in terms of misconduct or by imputation to me of any inadmissible affiliation, belief or utterance.

Thus, no information has been given about me in this Interrogatory which can be considered derogatory by any rational standards.

Questions V, VII, and VIII all seek to cast suspicion on me on the basis of my associations with other persons. These persons are not shown to be malefactors or necessarily culpable. The individual referred to in question V is alleged to have had proscribed political convictions,

and nothing whatever is stated about the persons referred to in questions VII and VIII.

It seems clear

~~In the light of these observations, I can only conclude that~~
no derogatory information about me has been presented and that an attempt is being made to conduct an improper enquiry into my personal life and private affairs. I consider it a very grave and a most regrettable matter indeed that any body of responsible officials has seen fit to attach even the slightest suspicion to my integrity and conduct on the basis of the trivial, if not frivolous, information which has been presented to me as "derogatory".

Add - I can only conclude that my insistence upon principle has resulted in your pressing an already guaranteed interest to this extent.

I should like to point out, furthermore, that it would be impossible to answer question VI with any measure of precision. Surely no one can seriously urge that activities which would "tend to further the cause of communism" is a meaningful standard for determining the qualifications of an international civil servant.

The questions relating to "adherence to communist ideology" and to the engagement in activities causing others to believe in such adherence, likewise are hopelessly vague and seek to place upon me the burden of responsibility for the intellectual vagaries of other persons.

Finally, I wish to assert most earnestly that ~~when~~ I have never departed in letter or spirit from the Oath I took when I became an international civil servant more than seven years ago. I am enclosing a copy of this Oath for your information.

Yours very sincerely,