

CONFIDENTIAL - EYES ONLY

Determined to be an administrative marking
By jc On 12-20-04

April 9, 1965

*File
East-West
Center*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. VALENTI:

SUBJECT: SANITIZED Grandson and the East-West Center

1. A couple months ago, you sent down to us the enclosed letter (Tab 1) from Senator SANITIZED in which the Senator requests the President's help in getting his grandson SANITIZED into the East-West Center. You also passed on the message that the President would like us to do all we can to grant SANITIZED request.

2. After receiving the Senator's letter and your message, I talked at length about the problem with Harry McPherson, Assistant Secretary for Cultural Affairs in State and the main point of contact between the East-West Center and the U. S. Government. Harry immediately contacted the Center and the Center assured him that SANITIZED application would receive full consideration as soon as it was received (the Center had not at that time received one). This word was passed on to Senator SANITIZED

3. Despite the special handling, Mr. SANITIZED did not make it. Attached at Tab 2 is a sad memo from Harry McPherson enclosing a letter from the East-West Center. The letter indicates that Senator SANITIZED grandson performed poorly as an undergraduate, scored low on an aptitude test, got a "D" on his senior thesis, and is in the process of being turned down by the Center.

4. The problem now is to figure out where we go from here. Harry McPherson tells me that we can put the heat on the Center and try to get Mr. SANITIZED admitted. At the same time, the Center could be counted on to resist this interference by the U. S. Government on behalf of a poor prospect and, at a minimum, some hard feelings would be generated.

Harry's own inclination is that, unless the President feels very strongly about this one, we should write a nice letter of condolence to SANITIZED and let the matter drop. I agree with Harry.

Gordon Chase

_____ Write a condolence letter to Senator SANITIZED
_____ Try again to get SANITIZED admitted.