December 6, 1947.

Harry S. Truman, President of the United States, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Why do you not heed the insistent plea of William J. (Wild Bill) Donovan for an independent Intelligence Agency headed by a civilian. We heard Major Paul Cyr speak at a Knife and Fork dinner the other night and he gave us the picture of what happened during the War as the result of having Intelligence under Army, Navy and Civilian causing confusion, waste and a lack of responsibility.

Please, Sir, see to it that we take advantage of one of our most important weapons—to prevent war. The people of the United States expect this of you and feel that you will not let them down!

Respectfully yours,

Susan P. Lester

(The signature is illegible.)
December 15, 1947

My dear Mrs. Lester:

Your letter of December sixth to the President in the interest of Mr. William J. Donovan has been received. For your information, I wish to advise you that there has been established a Central Intelligence Agency, provided for in the National Security Act of 1947. The President has appointed Rear Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter as Director of this Agency.

Very sincerely yours,

MATTHEW J. CONNELLY
Secretary to the President

Mrs. M. M. Lester,
The Roosevelt, X
Waco,
Texas.