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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

Executive Registry

86- 2845/17

30 September 1986

NOTE FOR: DDA

FROM:

DCI

SUBJECT:

Donovan Statue

Leo Cherne is getting proposals from three proven sculptors for the Donovan statue.

William J. Casey

Attachment:
Ltr from Leo Cherne to
Claire A. Stein, dtd
16 September 1986



Executive Registry

86- 2845×/16

The Research Institute of America, Inc. Research Institute Building 90 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10011-1696

Leo Cherne
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(212) 645-4800

September 16, 1986

Mrs. Claire A. Stein National Sculpture Society 15 East 26 Street New York, New York 10010

Dear Claire:

The photographs you sent me were extremely helpful. Any one of the sculptors you suggested would clearly do a distinguished piece of work. Because of the happy increased interest in figurative work, I am enclosing those photographs and the handsome Parks portolio which have been eliminated. I hope, however, I may continue to keep the photographs of Sam Houston and Lyndon Johnson by Ludtke, the sculpture of Barkley by Walter Hancock, and the folio of Bob Weinman's work.

Let me now explain the project and seek your advice on how to proceed. The headquarters buildings of the CIA in Langley, Virginia are in the process of expansion. The buildings and the grounds are magnificent. Since the predecessor organization to the CIA was the OSS during World War II which was organized and headed by General "Wild" Bill Donovan (William J.), several of the friends of Bill Donovan who played key roles in the OSS wish to erect a life-size bronze sculpture on an appropriate base in a prominent location. William J. Casey, the present Director of the CIA, was the European head of underground OSS activities during World War II, and is presently interested in this memorial to Donovan.

The necessary photographs and whatever information and help the sculptor would require will, of course, be provided.

At this point, cooperating with Casey, I have undertaken to find out the availability of these three sculptors and the approximate cost of a life-size standing figure. The sculptor and Casey should be brought together. While Casey comes to New York, whoever undertakes to do the work would undoubtedly wish to see the Langley site, which is less than thirty minutes from the international airport in Washington. Needless

Mrs. Claire A. Stein September 16, 1986 Page 2

to say, I would appreciate whatever information you could secure for me as well as your guidance on how we can proceed to nail this down as rapidly as possible. As you can tell from what I have written, there will be no competition.

While I tend to have the highest regard personally and professionally for Bob Weinman, on the basis of the photographs, my inclination would lean in the following order -- Ludtke, Hancock, Weinman.

If there is a problem about my continuing to keep the remaining photos, let me know.

On your recollection that you sent me some photos earlier this year with the impression that they were in connection with the same project, I frankly had completely forgotten that incident, but referring to my correspondence I find that in June 1985 you had provided some photos and some recommendations. They were indeed for a Donovan project. Whether it was the same one or not is unclear to me. Those photographs were returned to you.

Casey did, thereafter, go ahead with (quite foolishly) a CIA alumnus who is an amateur sculptor. Several of us viewed a model of his work about a month ago, and "amateur" overstates the man's qualifications. That, in turn, led to my offering to initiate the process again.

Thanks for your very prompt help and excellent selections.

the

Cordia

LC/cl encl

cc: William J. Casey