

Chemrophyl Associates

P. O. Box 8176
Southwest Station
Washington 24, D. C.

Sherman C. Grifford

2 July 1953

Major Louis J. West
210 Fairchild Lackland Village
San Antonio, Texas

My Good Friend:

I returned from a brief vacation in Maine to find your letter of 11 June on my desk. I had been awaiting your next communication with considerable anticipation and curiosity. Frankly, I had been wondering whether your apparent rapid and comprehensive grasp of our problems could possibly be real. A considerable portion of your letter indicated that you have indeed developed an admirably accurate picture of exactly what we are after. For this I am deeply grateful.

I am proceeding to take action on developing a practical modus operandi in the following way:

- (1) I am today dispatching a letter to Dr. Hastings enclosing a copy of your communication and suggesting to him an early conference here in order to make our initial assault on the top brass in your outfit.
- (2) In regard to the remarks you make about the advisability of your having some leeway in this purchase let me advise that it will be possible to setup a separate sum of money to be given to you personally for such matters.
- (3) It seems to me that it would be useful for me to obtain Top Secret clearance from our organization for Steele, Brua and Cowles. We may not favor to bring them in on the whole story but it would be wise to be in a position to do so when and if this becomes necessary. For this purpose I would appreciate receiving by return mail the following information on each of these personalities.

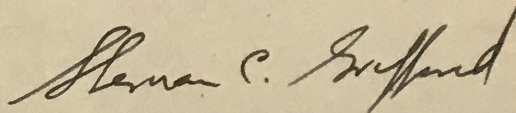
- (a) Their full name and title
- (b) Their date of birth
- (c) Their title of their present job
- (d) Their serial number

I gather from your letter that you do not look with favor on attempts to have you maneuvered out of the Air Force very soon. This would be difficult to do in any case but I want to know from you whether or not Hastings and I should possibly consider this as an alternative to the top brass here in the eventuality that they think it impossible to develop this project within the Air Force structure.

In the interest of getting this note off promptly I will relegate further discussion for a future personal contact which I hope I can arrange before too long.

I feel that we have gained quite an asset in the relationship we are developing with you. We will work this thing out one way or another. It is of the greatest importance to do so.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sherman C. Grifford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Sherman C. Grifford