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April 16, 2019

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While at the CIA, William Barr drafted letters calling for an end to the Agency's moratorium on destroying records

Decades before he was Attorney General (twice), Barr served in the Agency's Office of Legislative Council in the wake of the the Church Committee hearings

Written by JPat Brown

Edited by Michael Morisy

A memo uncovered in the Central Intelligence Agency's declassified archives shows that during his time at the CIA's Office of Legislative Council, current Attorney General William P. Barr drafted letters calling for the end of the moratorium on destroying records imposed on the Agency ahead of the Church Committee hearings.

PROJECTS

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| | |
|---|---|
| DATE | 20 May 1976 |
| COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.) | |
| | <p>Attached is a draft letter to Senators Mansfield and Scott concerning lifting the records destruction moratorium. The Director signed our first letter to Senator Church today on the same subject. He indicated that we should now approach Mansfield and Scott as soon as possible. I would like to have this draft fully coordinated and to the Director by early tomorrow afternoon so that we can get it into the mail on Monday. Therefore, I would appreciate your suggestions and comments as soon as possible.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  William P. Barr Office of Legislative Counsel </p> |

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Barr, who served in the OLC from 1973 to 1977, frequently appears in the OLC's journal from that period, usually going by the far more familiar "Bill."

[Bill \(p. 1\)](#)

7. (Unclassified - LJK) LIAISON At the request of Bill Barr, OLC, I asked Guy McConnell, Subcommittee on Defense, Senate Approp Committee staff, if Chairman John L. McClellan (D., Ark.), Senate Appropriations Committee, provided IC budget figures to Senators not on the Appropriations Committee. McConnell said that such figures were provided on a confidential basis at the request of the individual Senators

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The full memo and accompanying letter signed by then-CIA Director George Bush is embedded below.



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| TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building) | DATE | OFFICER'S INITIALS |
| | RECEIVED FORWARDED | |
| 1. OGC Attn: [REDACTED] 7D07 HQ | | |
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| 3. | | |
| 4. | | |
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Donald J. Trump
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I have fully authorized the total Declassification of any & all documents pertaining to the single greatest political CRIME in American History, the Russia Hoax. Likewise, the Hillary Clinton Email Scandal. No redactions!

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