The original documents are located in Box 62, folder "10/12/76 S3035 Relief of Alice W Olson Lisa Olson Hayward Eric Olson and Nils Olson" of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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APPROVED OCT 12 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION

WASHINGTON October 11, 1976

Last Day: October 13

Hatement January

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JIM CANNON HAD SUERN

SUBJECT:

S. 3035 - For the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson and Nils Olson

Attached for your consideration is S. 3035, sponsored by Senators Beall and Mathias.

The enrolled bill awards the sum of \$187,500 each to Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson and Nils Olson in full settlement of all their claims against the United States arising out of the death of Dr. Frank R. Olson in November of 1953.

S.3035, as introduced, would have provided compensation in the amount of \$312,000 for each of the four surviving members of the Olson family. The Administration supported that bill. However, the bill was amended on the House floor to reduce the total compensation award to \$187,500 for each survivor.

The Counsel's Office (Lazarus) indicates that "the Olson family has requested that the President make a formal record of (1) a policy calling for prior knowledge and consent by individuals in drug experiments and (2) support for an effort which may be mounted next year to seek further relief in these circumstances up to the amount agreed upon by the Administration." The Counsel's Office has prepared a draft signing statement for your consideration along these lines.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, Counsel's Office, NSC, CIA, Justice, and I recommend approval of the enrolled bill and the proposed signing statement which has been cleared by the White House Editorial Office (Smith).

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign S. 3035 at Tab B.

That you approve the signing statement at Tab C.

Approve Disapprove





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

OCT 7 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 3035 - For the relief of

Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward,

Eric Olson, and Nils Olson

Sponsor - Sen. Mathias (R) Maryland and

Sen. Beall (R) Maryland

Last Day for Action

October 13, 1976 - Wednesday

Purpose

Awards the sum of \$187,500 each to Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson and Nils Olson in full settlement of all their claims against the United States arising out of the death of Dr. Frank R. Olson in November 1953.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget Approval

Central Intelligence Agency Approval
Department of Justice Approval
Department of Defense No objection
Department of Labor No objection

Discussion

Dr. Frank R. Olson died as a result of injuries sustained after he jumped from a hotel room in New York City on November 28, 1953. At the time of his death, he was employed by the Army Chemical Corps at Fort Detrick, Maryland, as a civilian biochemist. This unit maintained liaison with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and participated in meetings with CIA personnel regarding its work. At one such meeting, held on November 18 and 19, 1953, Dr. Olson and several others were administered the drug lysergic acid dipthylamid (LSD) without their knowledge. They were told of the experiment 20 minutes after it began. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Olson exhibited sleeplessness, restiveness, and feelings of depression. A CIA employee accompanied him

to New York City, where he received psychiatric treatment. While there, Dr. Olson apparently threw himself from his hotel window and fell to his death.

The family of Dr. Olson was led to believe he died as a result of an unexplained suicide. The Olson family learned of the circumstances surrounding Dr. Olson's death in June 1975 with the publication of the report of the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States. In December 1953, Mrs. Olson applied for and was awarded benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act, which by its terms is her exclusive statutory remedy. Up to November 30, 1975, Mrs. Olson had received \$147,573.22 under the FECA.

S. 3035 authorizes the sum of \$187,500 each to Alice
W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson and Nils Olson,
in full settlement of all of their claims against the United
States arising out of the death of Dr. Frank R. Olson, if
all of them waive any and all rights arising out of such
death. The Act permits the family to retain benefits received to date under the Federal Employee Compensation Act,
but requires the family to forego any future FECA payments.

Following the disclosure of the circumstances of Dr. Olson's death, you personally apologized to the Olson family on behalf of the United States Government for the anguish and suffering they endured for more than 20 years of not knowing the circumstances of Dr. Olson's death. You also indicated your support of legislation that would provide the Olson family compensation.

S. 3035, as introduced, would have provided compensation in the amount of \$1.25 million, or \$312,000 for each of the four surviving members of the Olson family. The Administration supported that bill. However, the bill was amended on the House floor to reduce the total compensation award to \$750,000, or \$187,500 for each survivor. The Senate accepted the lower House figure.

The Central Intelligence Agency and the Departments of Justice, Defense and Labor favor approval of this bill. We concur in recommending approval of S. 3035.

Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Enclosures

Department of Instice Washington, D.C. 20530

October 1, 1976

Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

In compliance with your request, I have examined a facsimile of the enrolled bill, S. 3035, a bill "For the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson."

This act would authorize the payment of the sum of \$750,000 to the Olson family according to a prescribed schedule of satisfaction of all claims arising out of the death of Frank R. Olson. The act permits the family to retain benefits received to date under the Federal Employee Compensation Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. 801, et seq.), but requires the family to forego any future FECA payments.

Enactment of S. 3035 would compensate the Olson family for the full range of damages that arose from the death of Frank R. Olson and the 22 years of misrepresentation that followed.

The Department of Justice recommends Executive approval of this bill.

Michael M. Uhlmann Assistant Attorney General



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

4 OCT 1976

Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, DC 20403

Dear Mr. Lynn:

The Secretary of Defense has delegated responsibility to the Department of the Army for reporting the views of the Department of Defense on enrolled enactment S. 3035, 94th Congress, "For the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson."

The Department of the Army on behalf of the Department of Defense is not opposed to approval of the enrolled enactment.

This act provides for compensation to the widow and children of Dr. Frank R. Olson. Dr. Olson died as a result of injuries sustained after he had jumped from a hotel room in New York City on 28 November 1953. At the time of his death, he was a civilian biochemist with supervisory responsibilities and employed by the Army Chemical Corps at Fort Detrick, Maryland. This unit maintained liaison with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and participated in meetings with CIA personnel regarding its work.

At one such meeting, Dr. Olson was unwittingly administered the drug lysergic acid dipthylamide (LSD). He was told of the experiment after it had commenced but immediately exhibited sleeplessness, restiveness, and feelings of depression. These mental conditions prompted arrangements by the CIA for psychiatric treatment in New York City. While there, Dr. Olson fell to his death from his tenth floor hotel room.

The family of Dr. Olson were led to believe he died as a result of an unexplained suicide. Mrs. Olson was provided benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act, 5 U.S.C. 8101 et seq., which by its terms is her exclusive



Honorable James T. Lynn

statutory remedy.

The Olson family learned of the circumstances surrounding her husband's death in June, 1975 with the publication of the Rockefeller report. The Olson family filed suit under the Federal Tort Claims Act (28 U.S.C. 2671 et seq.), in July, 1975, for damages as a result of wrongful death. Whereas, appropriate legal defenses would undoubtedly cause the suit to fail, equity for the anguish and suffering endured by the Olson family for 20 years passage of time in not knowing why their husband and father unexpectedly committed suicide, calls for relief.

The enactment of this bill will cause no apparent increase in budgetary requirements for the Department of Defense.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

Sincerely,

Hedlai A. Hull

Assistant Councies of the Army
(Financial Management)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary WASHINGTON

OCT 6 1976

Honorable James T. Lynn Director Office of Management and Budget Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

This is in response to your request for our views on the enrolled enactment which would provide relief for the family of Dr. Frank R. Olson.

The Act would authorize payment of \$187,500 each to four members of Doctor Olson's family: Alice W. Olson, Lisa O. Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson. These payments would be in full settlement of all their claims against the United States arising out of the death of Dr. Olson in November 1953, if all of them waive any and all rights arising out of such death.

The Department of Labor is generally opposed to private relief legislation of this type. However, given the special circumstances surrounding this particular case, this Department has no objection to Presidential approval of this Act. If the Act is signed, we request that the Department of Treasury notify this Department as soon as an agreement is reached with all four of the family members to waive any and all rights arising out of Dr. Olson's death.

Sincerely,

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

6 OCT 1976

Mr. James M. Frey Assistant Director for Legislative Reference Office of Management and Budget Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Frey:

This is in response to your request for this Agency's views and recommendations on Enrolled Bill S. 3035, "For the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson."

The Central Intelligence Agency fully supports this Enrolled Bill and recommends its approval by the President.

Sincerely,

eorge Bush Director



ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: October 9

1145am Time:

FOR ACTION:

OMB Kunn Lynn M Max Friedersdorf

cc (for information): Jack Marsh

EdmSChundts

Debbie Kilberg-

Robert Hartmann

NSC/S da

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 11

Time: 1000am

SUBJECT:

Signing Statement-S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing



PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary annediately.

K, R. COLE, JR. For the President

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date: October 7 Time: 600pm

FOR ACTION: NSC/S

cc (for information):

Jack Marsh

Max Friedersdorf Bobbie Kilberg

Jim Connor Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 9

Time:

noon

SUBJECT:

S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

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For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

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K. R. COLE. JR. For the President

WASHINGTON

October 11, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CAVANAUCH

FROM:

MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF M //

SUBJECT:

S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs with the agencies that the Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al should be signed.

Attachments



ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date:

October 7

Time:

mq000

FOR ACTION: NSC/S

Max Friedersdorf

Bobbie Kilberg u

cc (for information):

Jack Marsh

Jim Connor

Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 9

Time:

noon

SUBJECT:

S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

_ For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

..... Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

____ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

The Olson family has requested that the President make a formal record of (]) a policy calling for prior knowledge and consent by individuals in drug experiments and (2) support for an effort which may be mounted next year to seek further relief in these circumstance up to the amount agreed upon by the Administration. The attached draft signing statement has been cleared only by Justice and the CIA. Ken Lazarus

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

October 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JAMES M. CANNON

FROM:

Jeanne W. Day

SUBJECT:

S. 3035

The NSC Staff concurs in the proposed enrolled bill S. 3035 - Relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson.



STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Burk wife

I am today signing into law S. 3035, a private bill for the relief of the survivors Dr. Frank R. Olson.

Dr. Olson as a civilian biochemist employed by the Department of the Army He died with he jumped from attenth floor window of a hotel in New York City on November 28, 953. Approximately one week explier, employees of the CIA had administered LSD to Dr. Olson. The administration of the drug occurred without his prior knowledge and would appear to have been a proximate cause of his death.

Legislation to appropriate \$1,250,000 to compensate the wife and three children of Dr. Olson for his death was supported by this Administration. However, the Congress approved a measure calling for the payment of a total of \$750,000 to the survivors.of Dr. Olson. Should the Congress next year consider further private relief legislation to raise the total amount of compensation to \$1.25 million, this Administration would support the measure.

The approval of this bill underscores the basic principle that an individual citizen of this nation should be protected from unreasonable transgressions into his personal activities. There should be no doubt that my Administration is opposed to the use of drugs, chemicals or other substances without the prior knowledge and consent of the individual affected. At the request of the family of Dr. Olson, I take this opportunity to highlight this

of plans

continuing policy.

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO :

Date: October 7

Time: 600pm

FOR ACTION: NSC/S

Max Friedersdorf

Bobbie Kilberg V

cc (for information): Jack

Jack Marsh
Jim Connor

Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 9

Time:

noon

SUBJECT:

S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

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___ For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

____ Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

____ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

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PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

10/9/76 - 12:304

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date: October 9

Time:

1145am

To Ruceso

FOR ACTION:

Jim Lynn

Max Friedersdorf

Bobbie Kilberg Robert Hartmann

NSC/S

cc (for information): Jack Marsh

Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 11

Time:

1000am

SUBJECT:

Signing Statement-S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

| | For | Necessary | Action |
|--|-----|-----------|--------|
|--|-----|-----------|--------|

____ For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

___ Draft Reply

x For Your Comments

_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am today signing into law S. 3035, a private bill for the relief of the survivors of Dr. Frank R. Olson.

Dr. Olson was a civilian biochemist employed by the Department of the Army. He died when he jumped from a tenth floor window of a hotel in New York City on November 28, \$\| 953\$. Approximately one week earlier, employees of the CIA had administered LSD to Dr. Olson. The administration of the drug occurred without his prior knowledge and would appear to have been a proximate cause of his death.

Legislation to appropriate \$1,250,000 to compensate the wife and three children of Dr. Olson for his death was supported by this Administration. However, the Congress approved a measure calling for the payment of a total of \$750,000 to the survivors of Dr. Olson. Should the Congress next year consider further private relief legislation to raise the total amount of compensation to \$1.25 million, this Administration would support the measure.

The approval of this bill underscores the basic principle that an individual citizen of this nation should be protected from unreasonable transgressions into his personal activities. There should be no doubt that my Administration is opposed to the use of drugs, chemicals or other substances without the prior knowledge and consent of the individual affected. At the request of the family of Dr. Olson, I take this opportunity to highlight this continuing policy.

MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: October 9

Time:

1145am

Jim Lynn

FOR ACTION: Max Friedersdorf

Bobbie Kilberg Robert Hartmann

NSC/S

cc (for information): Jack-Marsh

Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 11

Time:

1000am

SUBJECT:

Signing_Statement-S.3035=Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

_ For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

____ Prepare Agenda and Brief

____ Draft Reply

x For Your Comments

____ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

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WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: October 9

Time:

1145am

Jim Lynn

FOR ACTION: Max Friedersdorf

Bobbie Kilberg

Robert Hartmann

NSC/S

cc (for information): Jack Marsh

Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 11

Time:

1000am

SUBJECT:

Signing Statement-S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

| For | Necessary | Action |
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____ For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

____ Draft Reply

_x_For Your Comments

_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

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PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

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10/9/76-12:30 yem

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date: October 9

1145am Time:

Jim Lynn

FOR ACTION: Max Friedersdorf

Bobbie Kilberg Robert Hartmann

NSC/S

cc (for information): Jack Marsh

Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 11

Time:

1000am

SUBJECT:

Signing Statement-S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

| For | Necessary | Action |
|---------|-----------|--------|
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___ For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

____ Draft Reply

x For Your Comments

_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

10/9/26 - copy sent for researching, mm





PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

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ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO .:

Date: October 7

Time: 600pm

FOR ACTION: NSC/S

Max Friedersdorf

Bobbie Kilberg ν

cc (for information):

Jack Marsh

Jim Connor Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:

October 9

Time:

noon

SUBJECT:

S.3035-Relief of Alice W. Olson, et al

ACTION REQUESTED:

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_ For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

...... Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

____ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

please return to judy johnston, ground floor west wing

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Legislation to appropriate \$1,250,000 to compensate the wife and three children of Dr. Olson for his death was supported by this Administration. However, the Congress approved a measure calling for the payment of a total of \$750,000 to the survivors of Dr. Olson. Should the Congress next year consider further private relief legislation to raise the total amount of compensation to \$1.25 million, this Administration would support the measure.

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

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Dr. Olson was a civilian biochemist employed by the Department of the Army. He died when he jumped from a tenth floor window of a hotel in New York City on November 28, 1953. Approximately one week earlier, employees of the CIA had administered LSD to Dr. Olson. The administration of the drug occurred without his prior knowledge and would appear to have been a proximate cause of his death.

Legislation to appropriate \$1,250,000 to compensate the wife and three children of Dr. Olson for his death was supported by this Administration. However, the Congress approved a measure calling for the payment of a total of \$750,000 to these survivors. Should the Congress next year consider further private relief legislation to raise the total amount of compensation to \$1.25 million, this Administration would support the measure.

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REPORT No. 94–827

FOR THE RELIEF OF ALICE W. OLSON, LISA OLSON HAYWARD, ERIC OLSON, AND NILS OLSON

MAY 13, 1976.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. Mathias, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 3035]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 3035), for the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson and Nils Olson, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon, without amendment, and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this legislation is to provide compensation to the widow and children of Dr. Frank R. Olson.

STATEMENT

Senator Charles McC. Mathias, in introducing this bill on February 26, 1976, made the following statement:

* * * Dr. Olson died as the result of injuries sustained after he had jumped from a hotel room in New York City on November 28, 1953. At the time of his death, he was a civilian biochemist with supervisory responsibilities and employed by a special unit of the Army Chemical Corps at Fort Detrick, Md. This unit maintained liaison with the Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, and participated in meetings with CIA personnel regarding its work.

At one such meeting on November 18-19, 1953, which was attended by seven representatives from Fort Detrick and

57--007



three from the CIA, a number of those present, including Dr. Olson were administered lysergic acid dipthylamide—LSD—which had been introduced into a bottle of Cointreau liqueur without their knowledge by the CIA participants at the meeting. Dr. Olson and the others were told of the "experiment" 20 minutes later. Immediately after the experiment, Dr. Olson exhibited unusual sleeplessness, restiveness, and feelings of depression. Pursuant to arrangements made by the CIA, Dr. Olson, accompanied by a CIA employee, went to New York City, where he received psychiatric treatment from someone contacted by the CIA. During the period of treatment, Dr. Olson apparently threw himself from his 10th floor hotel room window and plunged to his death.

Not aware of the true facts and having been led to believe that her husband's death was an unexplained suicide, Mrs. Olson, at the urging of certain Army personnel, applied to the Bureau of Employee's Compensation, BEC, of the Department of Labor for benefits due her and her children under chapter 81—compensation for work injuries of title 5. United States Code—the Federal Employees Compensation Act, FECA—in lieu of civil service retirement benefits. BEC officials personally reviewed the records supplied by the CIA which described the circumstances leading up to and attendant upon the death of Dr. Olson. The BEC officials determined that the material furnished by the CIA was "sufficient to show that the condition responsible for self-destruction was proximately due to the conditions of his employment," and "from a medical standard there was a very definite connection between the illness and the act of selfdestruction."

In part, BEC's determination was based on a statement by the General Counsel of the CIA that the death had resulted from "circumstances arising out of an experiment undertaken in the course of his official duties for the U.S. Government." A review of relevant CIA documents reveals that the CIA was eager to arrange payments to the Olson family under chapter 81 and thus end all questions relating to the death of Dr. Olson.

Between that time and November 30, 1975, the family has received \$147,573.22 in benefits under chapter 81—compensation for work injuries, 5 U.S.C. 8101 et seq., the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, hereinafter cited as the FECA. The Olson family is currently receiving monthly benefits of nearly \$800. Under the FECA, a widow is entitled to compensation until she dies or remarries before reaching age 60; and children are paid until each becomes 18 or if over 18 and incapable of self-support when each become capable of self-support, 5 U.S.C. 8133(b).

Neither Mrs. Olson nor her children were told or knew of the involvement of the CIA or of all of the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Olson until the Rockefeller Commission Report on the CIA was published in June 1975. Although the report did not specifically identify Dr. Olson, it described the events leading up to his death. On July 17, 1975, the surviving members of the Olson family, with the aid of their attorneys, David Kairys and David Rudovsky, of Philadelphia, filed a wrongful death claim with the CIA pursuant to the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. 2671 et seq. In their letter the family requested, first, full disclosure to the family of the facts surrounding the death of Dr. Olson, second, an assurance that appropriate steps would be taken to forbid the kind of activities involved in the death of Dr. Olson; and third, monetary damages.

On July 21, 1975, the President met with the family of Dr. Olson. He expressed the sympathy of the American people and apologized on behalf of the U.S. Government for the circumstances of his death. The President also informed the Olsons that the Attorney General had been asked to meet with the Olsons' legal representatives to discuss any claims they wished to assert against the Government by reason of Dr. Olson's death. Subsequent to the President's meeting with the Olson family, negotiations began between the Department of Justice and the Olsons' attorneys.

In a July 24, 1975, letter, William Colby, Director of Central Intelligence, expressed his deepest personal sympathy to the family and apologized for their suffering and for the failure to inform them of the circumstances surrounding Dr. Olson's death. He further advised them that he was making available to their attorneys the information concerning the death which was available to the CIA. Since that time all of the documents which the CIA were able to find concerning Dr. Olson's death have been delivered to the Olsons along with a signed affidavit testifying as to their completeness.

As a result of the negotiations between the Department of Justice and the Olson family attorneys regarding the Federal Tort Claims Act suit instituted by the Olsons, it became clear that there existed certain potential technical obstacles, which might preclude recovery under the act. Accordingly, everyone concerned, including the President, the Attorney General and the Director of the CIA, agreed that it would be appropriate to proceed by way of a private bill for an amount which would adequately compensate the Olson family for damages suffered.

The private legislation now before us is premised on the assumption of responsibility by the United States with respect to the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Olson, and most significantly for the fact that the Olson family was deliberately not informed of these circumstances. I have been assured that the President, the CIA, and the Department of Justice all totally support the amount stated in the bill. Indeed, it must be stressed that this amount is a fairly arrived at negotiated figure, which the Department of Justice is satisfied represents fair compensation for the damages suffered.

This bill recognizes that, in view of the responsibility assumed by the Government, it would be inequitable to subject the Olson family, which has already been forced to live for over 20 years under the inexplicable shadow of Frank Olson's

death, to the financial and emotional strains associated with long and protracted legal proceedings.

It should be noted that this bill does not increase compensation to the dependents of an employee under the FECA; rather it would authorize compensation for injuries which are unrelated to the benefits available under that act.

Furthermore, the payment to the Olsons under this bill shall be in full satisfaction of any claims of the entire family against the United States relating to the unique circumstances surrounding Dr. Olson's death and shall also be in lieu of further compensation otherwise due under FECA. It is to be additionally noted that this bill is predicated on the novel circumstances which led to Dr. Olson's untimely death and thus this legislation is by no means intended to establish a precedent for future private bills involving different factual patterns and FECA awards.

As I previously stated, I have been assured that the President, the Justice Department, and the CIA fully support this legislation and I trust that my colleagues will swiftly enact

this bill.

The Central Intelligence Agency has urged that the bill be given favorable consideration.

The Committee on the Judiciary believes that this bill is meritorious

and recommends its favorable consideration.

Attached and made a part of this report is the report of the Central Intelligence Agency on this bill.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, Washington, D.C., April 5, 1976.

Hon. James O. Eastland, Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for our views on S. 3035, a private bill to authorize compensation to the surviving members of the immediate family of Dr. Frank R. Olson. We strongly urge that the Committee give favorable consideration to the bill.

Dr. Olson died in November 1953, a few days after he had participated with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency and U.S. Army personnel in an experiment involving the use of an hallucinogenic drug. At the time of his death, Dr. Olson was a civilian biochemist with a special unit of the Army Chemical Corps at Fort Detrick, Md. His unit was in periodic contact with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency and once or twice a year they held joint meetings. At one such meeting held on November 18–19, 1953, Dr. Olson and several others were administered lysergic acid dipthylamide (LSD) which had been introduced into a bottle of liquor without their knowledge. About 20 minutes later, they were told what had been done. The test was done to study reactions since little was then known about the effects of the drug.

Shortly thereafter, Dr. Olson exhibited unusual sleeplessness and depression. A CIA employee accompanied him to New York where he received psychiatric treatment. While still under treatment and shortly before he was to return to the Washington, D.C., area to enter a sani-

tarium, Dr. Olson apparently threw himself from his hotel window and fell to his death.

Mrs. Olson was not told of the administered LSD and believed her husband's death to be an unexplained suicide. In December 1953, Mrs. Olson applied for and was awarded compensation benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA), title 5, United States Code, chapter 81. Officials of the Office of Workers Compensation Programs (OWCP), Department of Labor, reviewed all of the records relating to Dr. Olson's death. The OWCP found that the evidence supported a finding that the conditions of Dr. Olson's employment brought about his illness and his death. The claim, figured on the basis of two-thirds of Dr. Olson's salary, was approved December 21, 1953. Mrs. Olson is currently receiving about \$800 per month and up to November 30, 1975 has received \$147,573.22 under the FECA.

Mrs. Olson and her children did not become aware of the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Olson and of the CIA involvement until June 1975, when some of the facts were related in the report by the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States. The President personally apologized to the Olson family on behalf of the U.S. Government for the anguish and suffering for more than 20 years of not knowing the full and complete circumstances surrounding Dr. Olson's death. Mr. William Colby, former Director, extended personal apologies on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency, and existing Agency documents concerning the death of Dr. Olson have been declassified and given to the Olson family and their attorneys.

On July 17, 1975, the Olson family, through their attorneys, filed a wrongful death claim with CIA under the Federal Tort Claims Act for money damages. However, a suit by the Olson family under the act would undoubtedly fail as the courts have consistently held that the FECA provides the exclusive remedy for death resulting from work-related injury. The authorization of \$1.25 million under the private bill, however, is not necessarily dependent upon the compensation to which the surviving Olson family might otherwise be entitled absent legal defenses. It represents the sum which this Agency and the Olson family consider to be appropriate for the suffering which the family has endured over the years as the result of what was, in the family's view, Dr. Olson's inexplicable suicide. As such, the amount of compensation sought implicitly recognizes the authority of Congress to pay, by private bill, a debt founded in equity in its ethical as well as legal senses.

Rather than require the Olson family to resort to the courts which most probably will fail, we urge that the committee give early and favorable consideration to the private bill to compensate members of the family for the wrong they have suffered. For 20 years, the Olson family was unaware of the true circumstances and extended litigation would further aggravate the prolonged anxiety that they have already suffered

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely,

George Bush, Director.

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ALICE W. OLSON, LISA OLSON HAYWARD, ERIC OLSON, AND NILS OLSON

SEPTEMBER 10, 1976.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

> Mr. KINDNESS, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 3035]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3035) for the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson and Nils Olson, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to pay \$312,500 each to Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson, in full settlement of all of their claims against the United States arising out of the death of Doctor Frank R. Olson in November 1953. The named persons would be required to waive any and all rights arising out of such death and the payments would be in full satisfaction of all their claims of any nature whatsoever against the United States, or against any past or present employee or agent of, or person associated with, the United States, his estate or personal representative, in connection with the circumstances surrounding such death and such payments shall be in lieu of further compensation otherwise due under chapter 81, of title 5, United States Code, or any award thereunder.

STATEMENT

As outlined in the Senate report (S. Rept. No. 94-827, 94th Cong., 2d sess.), Dr. Frank R. Olson died as the result of injuries sustained after he had jumped from a hotel room in New York City on November 28, 1963. At the time of his death, he was a civilian biochemist with supervisory responsibilities and employed by a special unit of the Army Chemical Corps at Fort Detrick, Md. This unit maintained

liaison with the Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, and participated in meetings with CIA personnel regarding its work.

At one such meeting on November 18-19, 1953, which was attended by seven representatives from Fort Detrick and three from the CIA. a number of those present, including Dr. Olson were administered lysergic acid dipthylamide—LSD—which had been introduced into a bottle of Cointreau liqueur without their knowledge by the CIA participants at the meeting. Dr. Olson and the others were told of the "experiment" 20 minutes later. Immediately after the experiment, Dr. Olson exhibited unusual sleeplessness, restiveness, and feelings of depression. Pursuant to arrangements made by the CIA, Dr. Olson, accompanied by a CIA employee, went to New York City, where he received psychiatric treatment from someone contacted by the CIA. During the period of treatment, Dr. Olson apparently threw himself from his 10th floor hotel room window and plunged to his death.

It appears that Mrs. Olson was not aware of the true facts and having been led to believe that her husband's death was an unexplained suicide, and Mrs. Olson, at the urging of certain Army personnel, applied to the Bureau of Employees Compensation, BEC, of the Department of Labor for benefits due her and her children under chapter 81—compensation for work injuries of title 5, United States Code the Federal Employees Compensation Act—in lieu of civil service retirement benefits. BEC officials personally reviewed the records supplied by the CIA which described the circumstances leading up to and attendant upon the death of Dr. Olson. The BEC officials determined that the material furnished by the CIA was "sufficient toshow that the condition responsible for self-destructive was proximately due to the conditions of his employment," and "from a medical" standard there was a very definite connection between the illness and the act of self-destruction."

In part, BEC's determination was based on a statement by the General Counsel of the CIA that the death had resulted from "circumstances arising out of an experiment undertaken in the course of his official duties for the U.S. Government".

Between that time and November 30, 1975, the family has received \$147,573.22 in benefits under chapter 81—compensation for work injuries, 5 U.S.C. 8101 et seq., the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, hereinafter cited as the FECA. The Olson family is currently receiving monthly benefits of nearly \$800. Under the FECA, a widow is entitled to compensation until she dies or remarries before reaching age 60; and children are paid until each becomes 18 or if over 18 and incapable of self-support when each becomes capable of self-support, 5 U.S.C. 8133(b).

Neither Mrs. Olson nor her children were told or knew of the involvement of the CIA or of all of the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Olson until the Rockefeller Commission Report on the CIA was published in June 1975. Although the report did not specifically identify Dr. Olson, it described the events leading up to his death.

On July 17, 1975, the surviving members of the Olson family, with the aid of their attorneys, David Kairys and David Rudovsky, of Philadelphia, filed a wrongful death claim with the CIA pursuant to the Federal Tort Claims Act. 28 U.S.C. 2671 et seq. Negotiations were conducted between the Department of Justice and the Olsons' attorneys. The favorable report of the Department of Justice is set out

following this report.

The Senate report stated that in a July 24, 1975 letter, William Colby, Director of Central Intelligence, expressed his deepest personal sympathy to the family and apologized for their suffering and for the failure to inform them of the circumstances surrounding Dr. Olson's death. He further advised them that he was making available to their attorneys the information concerning the death which was available to the CIA. Since that time all of the documents which the CIA were able to find concerning Dr. Olson's death have been delivered to the Olsons along with a signed affidavit testifying as to their completeness. The report of that agency made to the House Committee on this matter is set out at the end of this report.

This committee understands that as a result of the negotiations between the Department of Justice and the Olson family attorneys regarding the Federal Tort Claims Act suit instituted by the Olsons, it became clear that there existed certain potential technical obstacles, which might preclude recovery under the act. Accordingly, it was agreed that it would be appropriate to proceed by way of a private bill for an amount which would adequately compensate the Olson family

for damages suffered.

The Senate report explained that this bill is premised on the assumption of responsibility by the United States with respect to the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Olson, and that the Olson family was deliberately not informed of these circumstances.

The payment to the Olsons under this bill shall be in full satisfaction of any claims of the family against the United States relating to the unique circumstances surrounding Dr. Olson's death and shall also be

in lieu of further compensation otherwise due under FECA.

This bill is predicated on the unique circumstances of this particular case and upon the novel circumstances which led to Dr. Olson's untimely death and thus this legislation is by no mean intended to establish a precedent for future private bills involving different factual patterns or FECA awards. It should also be stated that this bill should in no way be taken as a precedent for attempts to obtain legislative relief where other administrative and judicial remedies are provided by federal statutes. In fact, statutes such as the Tort Claims Act, now codified as a part of Title 28 of the United States Code, were enacted to obviate the necessity for appeals for legislative relief, and to provide for uniform and fair determination of claim matters. However it appears that in this case there is no clear statutory remedy.

In its report to this committee on the companion House bill, the *Central Intelligence Agency outlined the facts of this matter substantially as was done in the Senate report mentioned above. In comment-

ing upon the relief provided in the bill, that Agency stated:

On 17 July 1975, the Olson family, through their attorneys, filed a wrongful death claim with CIA under the Federal Tort Claims Act for money damages. However, a suit by the Olson family under the Act would undoubtedly fail as the courts have consistently held that the FECA provides the exclusive remedy for death resulting from work-related injury.

The authorization of \$1.25 million under the private bill, however, is not necessarily dependent upon the compensation to which the surviving Olson family might otherwise be entitled absent legal defenses. It represents the sum which this Agency and the Olson family consider to be appropriate for the suffering which the family has endured over the years as the result of what was, in the family's view, Dr. Olson's inexplicable suicide. As such, the amount of compensation sought implicitly recognizes the authority of Congress to pay, by private bill, a debt founded in equity in its ethical as well as legal senses.

Rather than require the Olson family to resort to the courts which most probably will fail, we urge that the Committee give early and favorable consideration to the private bill to compensate members of the family for the wrong they have suffered. For twenty years, the Olson family was unaware of the true circumstances and extended litigation would further aggravate the prolonged anxiety that they have already

suffered.

The committee agrees that the particular facts and circumstances of this case justify legislative relief and recommends that the bill be considered favorably.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., April 26, 1976.

Hon, Peter W. Rodino, Jr.

Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, 2137 Rayburn House Office Building, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your request for the views of this Office on H.R. 12177, "For the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson."

H.R. 12177 would authorize the payment of \$1,250,000 in equal shares to the widow and children of Dr. Frank R. Olson in full settlement of all their claims against the United States arising out of Dr.

Olson's death.

In their reports to your Committee on this bill, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Justice favor its enactment. CIA's report sets forth the facts involved in the Olson family's claim, and notes that the amount of compensation sought implicitly recognizes the authority of Congress to pay a debt founded in equity in its ethical as well as legal senses. Justice supports this legislation, in the unique and tragic circumstances of this case, and states that the amount of the claim appears to be reasonable should the Congress decide to compensate the Olsen family for the full range of their claimed damages.

We concur in the CIA and Justice reports, and, accordingly, support

enactment of H.R. 12177.

Sincerely,

James M. Frey, Assistant Director for Legislative Reference. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, Washintgon, D.C., April 5, 1976.

Hon. Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for our views on H.R. 12177, a private bill to authorize compensation to the surviving members of the immediate family of Dr. Frank R. Olson. We strongly urge that the Committee give favorable consideration to the bill.

Dr. Olson died in November 1953, a few days after he had participated with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency and U.S. Army personnel in an experiment involving the use of an hallucinogenic drug. At the time of his death, Dr. Olson was a civilian biochemist with a special unit of the Army Chemical Corps at Fort Detrick, Maryland. His unit was in periodic contact with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency and once or twice a year they held joint meetings. At one such meeting held on 18–19 November 1953, Dr. Olson and several others were administered Lysergic Acid Dipthylamide (LSD) which had been introduced into a bottle of liquor without their knowledge. About twenty minutes later, they were told what had been done. The test was done to study reactions since little was then known about the effects of the drug.

Shortly thereafter, Dr. Olson exhibited unusual sleeplessness and depression. A CIA employee accompanied him to New York where he received psychiatric treatment. While still under treatment and shortly before he was to return to the Washington, D.C. area to enter a sanitarium, Dr. Olson apparently threw himself from his hotel window

and fell to his death.

Mrs. Olson was not told of the administered LSD and believed her husband's death to be an unexplained suicide. In December 1953, Mrs. Olson applied for and was awarded compensation benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA), Title 5, U.S. Code, Chapter 81. Officials of the Office of Workers Compensation Programs (OWCP), Department of Labor, reviewed all of the records relating to Dr. Olson's death. The OWCP found that the evidence supported a finding that the conditions of Dr. Olson's employment brought about his illness and his death. The claim, figured on the basis of two-thirds of Dr. Olson's salary, was approved 21 December 1953. Mrs. Olson is currently receiving about \$800.00 per month and up to 30 November 1975 has received \$147,573.22 under the FECA.

Mrs. Olson and her children did not become aware of the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Olson and of the CIA involvement until June 1975, when some of the facts were related in the report by the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States. The President personally apologized to the Olson family on behalf of the U.S. Government for the anguish and suffering for more than twenty years of not knowing the full and complete circumstances surrounding Dr. Olson's death. Mr. William Colby, former Director, extended personal apologies on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency, and existing Agency documents concerning the death of Dr. Olson have been declassified and given to the Olson family and their attorneys.

On 17 July 1975, the Olson family, through their attorneys, filed a wrongful death claim with CIA under the Federal Tort Claims Act for money damages. However, a suit by the Olson family under the Act would undoubtedly fail as the courts have consistently held that the FECA provides the exclusive remedy for death resulting from work-related injury. The authorization of \$1.25 million under the private bill, however, is not necessarily dependent upon the compensation to which the surviving Olson family might otherwise be entitled absent legal defenses. It represents the sum which this Agency and the Olson family consider to be appropriate for the suffering which the family has endured over the years as the result of what was, in the family's view, Dr. Olson's inexplicable suicide. As such, the amount of compensation sought implicitly recognizes the authority of Congress to pay, by private bill, a debt founded in equity in its ethical as well as legal senses.

Rather than require the Olson family to resort to the courts which most probably will fail, we urge that the Committee give early and favorable consideration to the private bill to compensate members of the family for the wrong they have suffered. For twenty years, the Olson family was unaware of the true circumstances and extended litigation would further aggravate the prolonged anxiety that they

have already suffered.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

GEORGE BUSH, Director. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Washington, D.C., June 17, 1976.

Hon. PETER W. RODINO, Jr., Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice concerning H.R. 12177, a bill "For the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and

Nils Olson.

H.R. 12177 would authorize appropriations in the sum of \$1,250,000 to the Olson family according to a prescribed schedule in satisfaction of all claims arising out of the death of Frank Olson. The bill permits the family to retain benefits received to date under the Federal Employee Compensation Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. § 801, et seq.), but requires the family to forego any future FECA payments.

The Justice Department favors the prompt and fair resolution of the Olson family claims now barred by the exclusivity provisions of the Federal Employees Compensation Act. Absent legislative action such as H.R. 12177, a resolution of these liability and damage claims could only occur after prolonged judicial and administrative proceed-

ings with substantial costs to all parties concerned.

The proposed authorization would compensate the Olson family for the full range of damages that arose from the death of Frank Olson and the 22 years of misrepresentation that followed. Many elements of these damages may not be compensable under applicable law. For example, under the Federal Tort Claims Act (28 U.S.C. § 2680), no action is available for any misrepresentation or deceit concerning the circumstances of Frank Olson's death, nor are punitive damages permitted. (28 U.S.C. § 2674). However, in the unique and tragic circumstances of this case, the Department of Justice supports this legislation. Should Congress decide to compensate the family for the full range of their claimed damages, the figure of \$1,250,000 would appear to be reasonable.

Therefore, the Department of Justice recommends enactment of

this legislation.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the substance of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL M. UHLMANN. Assistant Attorney General.

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Hinety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six

An Act

For the relief of Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$187,500 each to Alice W. Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, Eric Olson, and Nils Olson, in full settlement of all of their claims against the United States arising out of the death of Doctor Frank R. Olson in November 1953, if all of them waive any and all rights arising out of such death. The payment of such sums shall be in full satisfaction of all claims of Alice W. Olson, Eric Olson, Lisa Olson Hayward, and Nils Olson of any nature whatsoever against the United States, or against any past or present employee or agent of, or person associated with, the United States, his estate or personal representative, in connection with the circumstances surrounding such death and such payments shall be in lieu of further compensation otherwise due under chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, or any award thereunder.

SEC. 2. No part of the amount appropriated by this Act in excess of 10 per centum thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this claim, and the same is unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor

punishable by a fine in any amount not to exceed \$5,000.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate. Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am today signing into law S. 3035, a private bill for the relief of the survivors of Dr. Frank R. Olson.

Dr. Olson was a civilian biochemist employed by the Department of the Army. He died when he jumped from a tenth floor window of a hotel in New York City on November 28, 1953. Approximately one week earlier, employees of the CIA had administered LSD to Dr. Olson. The administration of the drug occurred without his prior knowledge and would appear to have been a proximate cause of his death.

Legislation to appropriate \$1,250,000 to compensate the wife and three children of Dr. Olson for his death was supported by this Administration. However, the Congress approved a measure calling for the payment of a total of \$750,000 to these survivors. Should the Congress next year consider further private relief legislation to raise the total amount of compensation to \$1.25 million, this Administration would support the measure.

The approval of this bill underscores the basic principle that an individual citizen of this nation should be protected from unreasonable transgressions into his personal activities. There should be no doubt that my Administration is opposed to the use of drugs, chemicals or other substances without the prior knowledge and consent of the individual affected. At the request of the family of Dr. Olson, I take this opportunity to highlight this continuing policy.

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