

briefing document there's a consistent pattern of day-month-comma-year, rather than month-day-comma-year. In addition, there is a consistent use of a "0" in front of a one digit date. So, for example, 01 August, 1950. This and the fact that William Moore sometimes uses a similar date format in his letters, and did to Phillip Klass in some (certainly not all) of his letters, has led Klass to conclude that the date format didn't come into place until computers were in widespread use and therefore the document is an obvious fraud. He strongly implies that it must have been forged by William Moore because there are some date formats that Moore used that are similar. Now the reasoning here is strange from a logical viewpoint. The Pope is against birth control, communists are against birth control, obviously the Pope is communist. Klass never mentions when he makes this argument that he has letters from Moore that don't use this date format.

He also doesn't mention that many examples of a similar date format have turned up in a wide variety of places. This was apparently standard for NATO for many years. I picked examples out of Timothy Good's book, out of some of the older documents I went through, from a number of Canadian documents and found a whole host of different date formats. One has to remember that the briefing was done, if it's genuine, for a military man by a military man. Admiral Hillenkoetter had served in Europe, the French use this date format. One thing that becomes quite clear if one spends sufficient time in archives going through papers of a particular individual is that from the same office one can find many different date formats, many different letter formats, many different style formats. For example, in letters from MJ-12 member General Walter B. Smith to General George C. Marshall -- personal notes, birthday notes, thanks for the greetings, etc. -- there are four different date formats: 29 December 1952; 26 October, 1954 (note comma); Oct. 7, 1954; and 12/29/54. Three of these letters were handwritten, so certainly must be attributed to Smith, himself. Note that one of these formats is the day-month-comma-year format.

This does raise the question of where would Hillenkoetter, if he had prepared such a briefing, have had it typed. Clearly, it was at a very high security level, if genuine. This led me to wonder whether or not Hillenkoetter would have been able to get it typed at the headquarters of the Third Naval District. Who, there, would have had a need-to-know for Majestic 12 information if, as is indicated in the briefing itself, this was considered to be something that was accountable only to the President. The obvious thought is that since Hillenkoetter was head of the CIA from 1947 through most of 1950 while he was a member of MJ-12, he should have been able to have it typed by somebody with a need-to-know within the CIA.

In 1952 that would have to mean that he would have been in touch with General Walter B. Smith, his successor at the CIA. But according to the briefing, Smith also became a member, replacing Forrestal and therefore in addition to Hillenkoetter. There shouldn't have been a problem at all in Hillenkoetter going to Smith. In addition, since Smith had worked so closely with Ike in