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MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Luce

FROM: C. D. Jackson

April 15, 1957

Father Morlion is in town, and naturally wants to see you. I have told him that you were extremely busy and having to make frequent trips.

However, if you could see him for a few minutes later this week (he will be in Washington Wednesday and Thursday) or next week, he would be happy and satisfied.

Meanwhile, here is an updater:

Last time we talked about this, Allen D. had withdrawn his support because of negative reports from Rome as to the status of Pro Deo in Vatican and Dominican eyes, and because Morlion's salesmanship had gotten a little ahead of his bookkeeping. I said that I would try to get at the facts.

I am satisfied that as of this moment --

(a) The Dominican Order is behind the project. There is an absolutely unequivocal letter signed by the Dominican General.

(b) The Vatican also approves, although somewhat more cautiously, because they do not wish to give final formal public blessing before the organization is sufficiently well off financially so that it will not turn into a Vatican liability, and also because Pro Deo has plenty of enemies among those Monsignori and Cardinals who do not believe in such an inter-denominational, lay, and democratic educational project under Vatican seal. Monsignori dell'Acqua and Montini, as well as Cardinal Siri, are squarely on Morlion's side.

The above has been communicated to Allen D. with an urgent request that he reconsider. He will be seeing Morlion on Thursday morning. I am not too hopeful that he will change his mind, partly because his principal advisor in this area, on whom he relies completely, is a complete third-rater who has never been able to get the larger aspect through his head, and continues to see it as a rather silly cloak-and-dagger operation,

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I have made this point politely but unmistakably to Allen on two occasions, but he blythely turned

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my letters over to the advisor in question.

The American fund raising activities are still pretty much of a shambles, for the reason that none of the "volunteers" involved are able to give this the nearly full time attention it must have in order to get the money.

Nevertheless, all is not completely black, since Dean Carman (Catholic) of Columbia will probably replace George Shuster, and will, I think, be able to give it considerably more attention (one hour a month would represent one hundred percent improvement). Also, with Russell Bourne's help we are finally putting together a simple brochure, all of Morlion's previous efforts being worse than useless.

Morlion has also been talking to John Price Jones. When I explained to him that these fund-raising organizations did not actually solicit money themselves but acted as a professional secretariat for the appropriate individuals, Morlion assured me that this was different, and that they had an individual who had "done the work for Fordham". I will find out more about this.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several loops and a long tail, positioned above a horizontal line.