

Vice President Rockefeller's Residence
Pocantico Hills, New York

29 NOV 1976

John F. Blake
Deputy Director
for
Administration

5454

DCI

Sir:

This is to alert you to the Vice President's efforts to have the Pocantico Hills estate declared suitable for the storage of classified information, including code-word, after he leaves office.

/s/John F. Blake

John F. Blake

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Vice President

Executive Registry

76-4089

29 NOV 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : John F. Blake
Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT : Vice President Rockefeller's Residence
Pocantico Hills, New York

1. In November 1975 the Staff Security Officer, Office of the Vice President, requested the Director of Security, CIA, to conduct a survey of a vault in the Rockefeller residence at Pocantico Hills, New York, to determine its adequacy for storage of classified information. The survey was conducted in December 1975 and recommendations for improvements were made. The recommended improvements were effected, and a final survey was made in August 1976. At that time it was acknowledged by the Vice President's Security Officer that the Vice President planned to store some classified material up to and including Secret in that vault after he leaves office in January 1977.

2. In a memorandum dated 29 September 1976 to the Vice President's Security Officer, the Director of Security declared that the facility "could be approved formally for the storage of classified material." The memorandum stated, however, that "at such time as a decision is made to actually store classified materials at the facility, the particular executive agency or agencies furnishing such material should be requested to issue a formal approval."

3. Last week the Vice President's Security Officer contacted the Security Officer of the National Security Council to request the issuance of an expedite accreditation of the Pocantico Hills vault for the storage of classified material. The National Security Council Security Officer passed the request to CIA's Office of Security which, in turn, contacted the Vice President's Security Officer. At this time it was acknowledged that the material slated for permanent storage at Pocantico Hills included Rockefeller Commission working papers and some national security position papers including some codeword items.

4. On 24 November 1976, by telephone the Vice President's Security Officer was advised that CIA considers the vault to be adequate from a physical security standpoint for the storage of classified material, including codeword. It was also pointed out that CIA does not have the authority to approve or not approve the transfer of the Vice President's classified holdings from U. S. Government control to the residence at Pocantico Hills.

5. The Vice President's Security Officer has requested that this telephonic advice be sent over in writing. A draft of the letter Mr. Gambino intends to send, in coordination with the Office of General Counsel, is attached for your information.

/s/John E. Blake

John F. Blake

Att

Distribution:

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ATTACHMENT

Approved For Release 2005/06/23 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100090004-5

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Ralph E. Martin
Staff Security Officer
Office of the Vice President

FROM : Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

SUBJECT : Accreditation of Vault at Vice President's
Residence, Pocantico Hills, New York

REFERENCE : Telephonic Request by Staff Security
Officer, Office of the Vice President
16 November 1976

1. Pursuant to the request of the Staff Security Officer, Office of the Vice President, the vault at the Pocantico Hills, New York, residence of the Vice President was surveyed by CIA security officers in December 1975 to determine its adequacy for storage of classified material. Following the survey certain recommended modifications were effected. The vault now meets the minimum physical security standards for the storage of classified material, including sensitive compartmented information.

2. Unfortunately, there is no precedent for the accreditation of a private residence for the retention of classified material. Thus, at the expiration of the Vice President's term of office, any accreditation would, in fact, become invalid. Although former Presidents have had materials removed to presidential libraries, the classified material in such holdings has been administered and retained under U. S. Government control by the National Archives. Presumably, the material desired by the Vice President could be handled similarly.

3. Under the circumstances, regretfully, CIA has no authority to provide the accreditation requested by the Security Officer to the Vice President.

Robert W. Gambino

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional) Vice President Rockefeller's Residence
Pocantico Hills, New York

FROM: John F. Blake
 Deputy Director
 for
 Administration

EXTENSION NO.

DATE **29 NOV 1978**

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		

1.	DCI	12-1	JD	
2.	FYI:	→		Sir: This is to alert you to the Vice President's efforts to have the Pocantico Hills estate declared suitable for the storage of classified information, including code word, after he leaves office.
3.	DD/A			
4.				
5.				
6.	NOTE: BOB GAMBINO will soon			
7.	letter to V.P.'s security officer stating that venue			
8.	meets security standards, but that CIA cannot			
9.	provide excoriation of security for a private residence. It would be			
10.	invalid after V.P. leaves office.			
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

John F. Blake

CP