

SECRET

17 December 1963

63-9293

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : Covert Action Project Funds,
FY '64 and FY '65

1. Reference is made to the attached budget figures on covert actions as furnished the Director on 2 December.

2. Please prepare a report, extending the information obtained in the attached figures to include information concerning the basic authorization for these figures.

3. I want to know whether or not these are one-shot deals or continuing items, which ones have been reviewed and approved by the Special Group, which ones may be carry-overs from prior authorizations of the Group, or approvals by State Department without reference to the Group. In other words, what authority and at what approximate time period (month and year is adequate) permits our implementation of all of these programs?

4. I have in mind at an appropriate subsequent date submitting the entire schedule to the Special Group, in order to get Special Group reaffirmation of the entire list. This latter concept is not yet firm but a final decision will be made by the Director based on the information you are requested to furnish me.

SIGNED

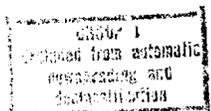
Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

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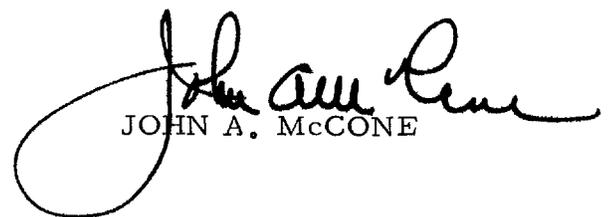


13 December 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director

At the Special Group meeting yesterday we reviewed the status of our various covert political action programs. The questions of the Director of the Budget, Mr. Amory and others were fully and satisfactorily answered by Mr. Helms and Cord Meyer. A review was suggested on certain continuing items. However I have a feeling that there are a substantial number of continuing items, most of them small, which have not been reviewed by the Special Group and are carried on under prior authorizations of the Group or approvals from Alexis Johnson without reference to the Group.

I have a report of each and every expenditure in FY '63 and '64. I would like to have appended information concerning the authorization action, either on the part of the Agency alone or with State Department, and/or the Special Group, which permits our implementation of these programs. I feel then that we should move in the direction of presenting the entire schedule to the Special Group, seeking a reaffirmation of the entire list, and this could be done by reference to the prior authorizations. I am not proposing we take this step at this time but at an early date you and I should look over the current status of authorizations and make a decision as to the additional steps we should take.


JOHN A. McCONE