

19 JAN 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Proposal for Expanded Audio Surveillance
R&D Program

1. The attached documentation supports an expanded R&D effort in the audio surveillance field, to be undertaken in a closely coordinated manner by ORD and TSD. The proposal at hand would augment the FY 1966 TSD/ORD audio program, now budgeted at

2. The objectives of the accelerated program are to provide the Intelligence Community with audio surveillance techniques and devices which far exceed existing capabilities. This would be in response to what I am told are recent Soviet and ChiCom countermeasures achievements. In addition, successful development of the proposed hardware would provide technical capabilities against heretofore impenetrable targets. A detailed description of the R&D program and its elements appears at Tab A. The DD/S&T, following numerous discussions with the Agency principals involved, has personally validated the requirements and the proposed R&D Program (Tab B). For background purposes the original request from Chief, TSD, is included under Tab C.

3. In order to obtain the Reserve release from the Bureau of the Budget it may be necessary to present, with appropriate safeguards, information on successful communist countermeasures, examples of high priority intelligence obtained through audio penetrations, and operational prospects for further successes. If this is required, appropriate DD/P officers such as Chief, SR Division are prepared to respond.

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4. I recommend that you authorize this increased level of effort in audio R&D and that a request for a Reserve release for this purpose [redacted] be transmitted to the Bureau of the Budget. It should be noted, however, that this action does not obviate TSD and ORD from the requirements of the regular Agency approvals system. In other words, individual contracts or projects must still come forward in command channels for approval at DD or DDCI level, depending upon the dollar "threshold".

L. K. White
Executive Director-Comptroller

Attachments:
As Stated

APPROVED:

/s/ Richard Helms

22 JAN 1966

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

Date

[redacted]

Distribution:

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19 January 1966

MEMO FOR: Colonel White

We have surveyed Agency R&D programs in an attempt to identify uncommitted funds which might be diverted to accelerate this audio program. Results of this survey and funding options available are as follows:

ORD - The Director, ORD, states that any reprogramming of funds at this time would seriously jeopardize projects of equal or greater priority and would actually result in cancellation of some projects currently underway. I concur with this position.

TSD - Sixty-four percent of the TSD R&D programs has been obligated to date and all project funds are planned for obligation by 1 April. They are currently turning down all unbudgeted proposals, which would have to be funded at the expense of high priority on-going effort. In the audio category, TSD has already reprogrammed more than [redacted] from other areas. A detailed description and justification of the TSD position are included under Tab C.

OEL - R&D funds are also planned for full commitment by 1 April. Several large projects have recently been approved and unplanned [redacted] support has recently required reprogramming in excess of [redacted]. Several valid but lower priority projects have been dropped from the R&D programs due to limited availabilities.

NPIC - It is a well established fact that NPIC's R&D funding level is far below requirements and, as you know, we plan to ask for augmentation to NPIC's program by a separate request for Reserve releases. Thus, any funds that might possibly become available in other DD/I areas during FY 1966 we would plan to reprogram into NPIC.

In summary we are faced with the problem of funding a valid high priority program outside of FY 1966 budget availability and for which funds cannot judiciously be diverted through reprogramming. I therefore recommend that you sign the attached memo to DDCI, which will give us the necessary authority to go ahead with a request for a Reserve release from BOB in the amount of

25X1

John M. Clarke
Director of Planning,
Programming and Budgeting

Attachment

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